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**Air Museum**

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Robert Holland, M.D. was the Patron of Green's Aeromant



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It was a privilege to pay homage to Dr. Carruthers  
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A most interesting book!

Without question, a most remarkable  
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The treasures of a lifetime of collecting -  
a treasure of my life to have seen it -  
It should be made available for many to see in the National Air Museum

Paul G. Garber  
Head Curator. 6/21/59.

Pat Langford

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(Dr. R.M. Bloch, Res. & Dev., Fr. Naval Aviation)

Mrs George (Rig) O. Norrie

Frank T. Courtney  
F.A.I. Licence No. 874.  
August 1914

Doctor D. Gardner

R. L. Preston

H. Barker B Royal Aero Club of U.K.

Milwaukee.

T. Blenot, Not Published  
Iceland

We ought to be grateful that  
this precious book is the legacy  
of Dr. Carruthers

Chopp

John Nichols

Ralph S. Hopkins

Paul H. Clegg

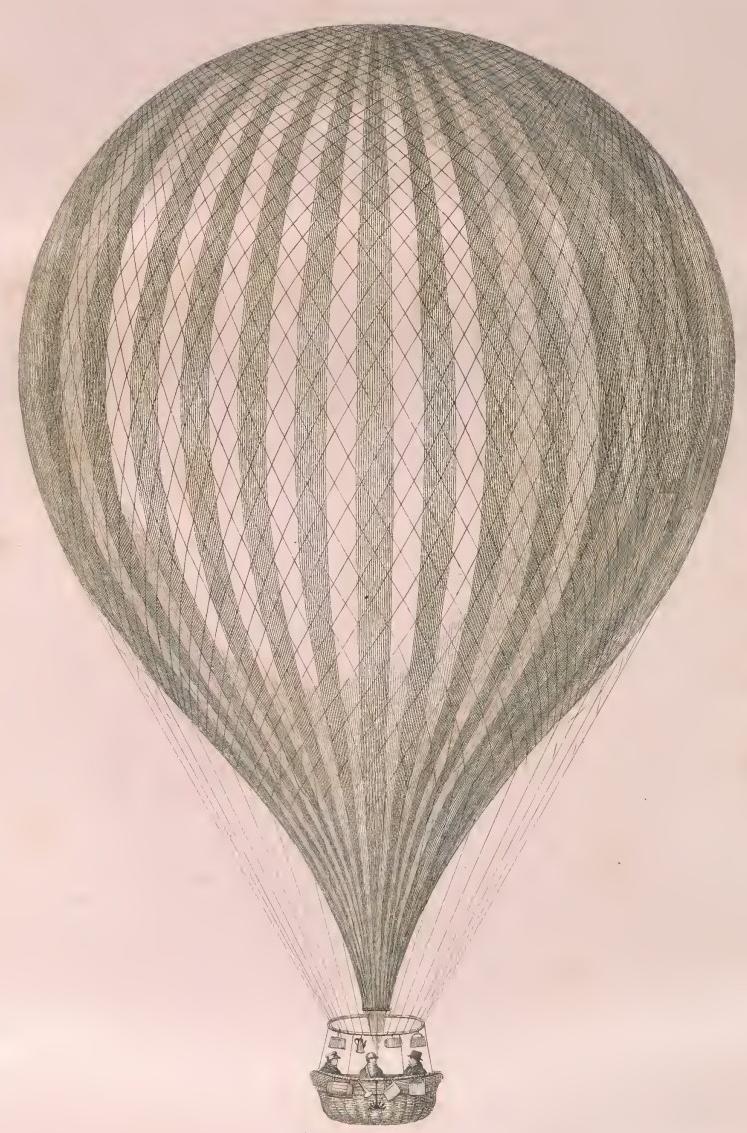
Thomas Quinn Breeley  
This book meets his soul  
inspire!

Paul G. Garber  
Head Curator. 6/21/59.

Marion Tolman  
Acquisition. Sept. 11, 1971







An experiment of Boyle's on the weight of Air gave birth to the new discovery of M<sup>r</sup>. Montgolfier. Having conceived the thought of displacing the atmospherical Air by one that was rarer, or lighter, he made use in the experiment of a piece of taffeta which was brought him from Lyons; he forgot the purpose for which it was intended, which was merely to line a suit of clothes; sewed it, and introduced into it forty cubic feet of Air. The Machine sprang out of the hands of Montgolfier, and mounted to the ceiling. It is not easy to describe his joy: he seizes the machine again with eagerness, and lets it go in the garden, where it rises to 36 feet. But the air contained in it getting out at the border of the stuff, and the machine fell down again upon a tree. This unexpected success determined him to a second experiment.

Some days after, a print appeared representing the moment of the ascent, in which but one and the same attitude could be given to all the spectators, that of having their eyes fixed upon the machine: ~~for~~ another print appeared afterwards, the subject of which was the fall of the Balloon at Gonesse. To this engraving, which expresses the terror of the Parish, the painter has added some strokes of imagination. It may be conceived, however, that the unexpected appearance of such a machine was calculated to give alarm, especially to country people. An intelligent, or even a learned person, seeing, for the first time, a globe of 12 feet in height upon the ground, and move itself there by leaps and bounds, would most surely hesitate to approach it.

Morning Post. Sept. 26. 1783.

## the Dolphin Carried off.

### A Dream

it is well known that in the year 1783 nothing was to be heard of in France but the new discovery made by Mongolfier - no other topic of conversation than Balloons and Aerostatic machines; nay, it had been announced for a certainty that very soon Mortals should be seen flying ~~up~~ aloft in air.

on a certain day the heavy hand of sleep had sealed fast my eyes; the light forsook me - my imagination was soon wrapped up in night.

I began to dream that I was in the midst of a crowd, where all shewed the most anxious eagerness to see a huge Balloon or Aerostatic globe, just ready to take its flight into the regions of Air; but vain did they endeavour to find a man bold enough to expose himself on this fickle Element.

I instantly felt a burning desire to mount the first this desire fermenting in my sleeping head - I see this chariot which attracts the eyes of all - I break thro' the crowd - I beg, I pray - my request is granted, and up I spring towards the celestial spaces.

I was now at the height of my wishes; in my ecstasy I ~~screamed~~ exclaimed: "now am I delivered from that odious globe below where I so often suffered such torments!"

... in the mean time a fresh wind wafts me on high; I begin to describe a great circle; I approach with terror the tremendous arch; already my eyes spy nothing else than moving plains: my weight increases - on the summit of my wheel, I am troubled, uneasy; I advance at a great rate without knowing whither - how many others would have bewildered themselves in such mates? three parts of the journey are already over, I had not perceived it.

with what sorrow, alas! did I feel myself convinced that after Elevation we must always expect a fall!

I have recourse to my skill: I reuire the heat of my furnace; I take another spring; but I strangled on an immense ocean: my means were inadequate: I was going fast to the bottom. Commanding as I declined, I spied some objects as if ~~they~~ the waters: they looked like rocks of Azure and Diamonds.

I had it not in my power to avoid them. I thought I was arriving at Neptune's Palace, instead of ~~the~~ reaching the habitation of the Moon.<sup>3</sup>

at length my cloud comes softly down: I find myself seated to my great surprise, on the azure back of a

a young and beautiful Dolphin; for a most lucky hazard had brought me to the court of the first of the Seagods: they spoke my native tongue; I thought myself in France. were I to relate here all that I saw in that place, every one would cry out: "we already know all that." but it is much more prudent to get out of this spot, for it is rather slippery.

I perceived with joy that my sudden arrival had given no offence to their Lordships the Fish. I found that their benignant dispositions were proportioned to their former power, and that they only spread their strong fins for the meeting and reception of the unfortunate. They much admired my new Vehicle: they wished to know my strange adventure. — one at length asked me how I had been able to make my way through such immense spaces; and above all, why with such means, I had not yet found a method for steering my course.

I began by returning many thanks to their Lordships — then recovering a little from my fright, I added: My lords had you been spectators of the brilliant success with which I entered on this sublime career, you would perhaps like myself have placed the greatest confidence in my bold attempt; and if men had not some reliance on chance and fortuitous events, they would never undertake any thing, at least, any thing of moment.

You must then know, my Lord, that tired of the evils which cover the face of the Earth, where Mortals wage eternal war against each other, expected, by means of these new experiments, to meet Jacob's ladder. — Some genius, no doubt, inspired and guided me.

My hopes are not quite fruitless as I am allowed to appear in presence of your Lordships. I thought, but in vain, to soar to the celestial mansions — now I am come down to the liquid Empire — this awful sight still fills me with terror.

Prostrate before your Lords, I beseech you to grant me an asylum or to accept my humble services as a mark of my gratitude.

"most willingly, replied the first, "but tell us, pray, what is that globe so rumpled, so squashed over thy head?" that indeed you shall know, answered I, "if your Majesty will design to accompany me, and be my guide."

~~the first of the~~ with what astonishment did I hear this great  
Prince relate the dreadful changes introduced into his  
Empire! the cruel losses which had ~~reduced~~ <sup>reduced</sup> the number  
of his illustrious relatives ~~and~~ and his own forlorn  
situation, without any other resources than that now offered  
by mere hazard. he informed me that he was surrounded  
by usurpers and tyrants who kept him in a most cruel  
state of captivity, as well as the Queen his unfortunate  
Mother &c. in short that their lives were in the  
greatest danger. then raising his voice with a courage  
far above his tender age: "let us set off, cried he,  
let us make speedy use of the assistance sent us by the  
gods".

"my Lord, said I, permit me to put round you these  
docile chains: our united strength will doubtless produce  
happy effects. + ~~as long as you will guide us, we shall carry you.~~

my cloud thus fitted to the person of the royal fish  
and deriving new life from his divine power raised into air  
~~both my Protectors and me.~~

we navigated in this manner over different countries  
which my guide surveyed with increasing satisfaction  
from the wonderful facility which I added to his power.

at length my sovereign guide recollecting that his  
presence was ~~not~~ necessary in these happy States which  
he is, one day to govern. and this ethereal voyage seemed  
to him as rapid as the twinkling of an eye, yet all his moments  
are counted by his best subjects.

he conducted me to the banks of a River which serves  
as a boundary between two of the most flourishing Empires  
in the world. on these banks was then assembled an army  
commanded by the bravest princes of his blood. here I was  
~~repeatedly~~ making repeated declarations never to forsake  
him — when all of a sudden, the spell broke — the Illusion  
vanished. during that instant of delight I had seen my  
model of perfection. — pleasure awoke me —  
happy, twice happy the sovereigns who have had an  
opportunity of acquiring knowledge and experience either  
in travelling thro' different ~~states~~ or thro' their own, but  
~~not as Lords of the Earth;~~ or from misfortunes which  
have ~~pitied~~ them some wholesome lessons of adversity!  
happy, twice happy the people governed by such sovereigns!  
such were Henry IV. of France; the Czar Peter I. Ye Heaven  
grant we may be able to add to these great names the  
name ~~of~~ of the unfortunate Dauphin of France  
Louis XVII.

my thoughts, my sentiments, my writings, are the only clues, the  
only means in my power to snatch him from his captivity;

of these I offer a faint image as well in this trifling object of my occupations, as in other works of a more serious nature; in fine I have endeavoured to give some degree of reality to ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> reveries as will be seen by my publishing the following work.

Note 1. would to god this faculty could be granted exclusively to innocence.

N. 2. in such cases people often imagine that they fly in the air, rise very high, or are carried rapidly down towards the deep.

N. 3. I had crossed the British Channel, and did not know that I was then on the River Seine.

N. 4. but what I saw there was only in imagination: matters are — changed: what are we to expect hereafter!!

N. 5. alluding to a ~~general~~ political Plan which the Viscount

de... had presented to the King before the Revolution.

N. 6. The Viscount de... is author of the Political, historical,

~~and moral Essays~~ or Memoirs, Journals, Romances &c  
which are in the hands of his Printers H. Spilsbury

Snowhill, since the month of June last in 6 Volumes in  
in-8°; the first has already appeared by subscription,

for one guinea payable at the beginning or end of the  
year ~~at the~~ as the subscribers shall think proper, according

(to the terms of the prospectus) this pamphlet is a work unconnected with the rest.

D E C E M B E R

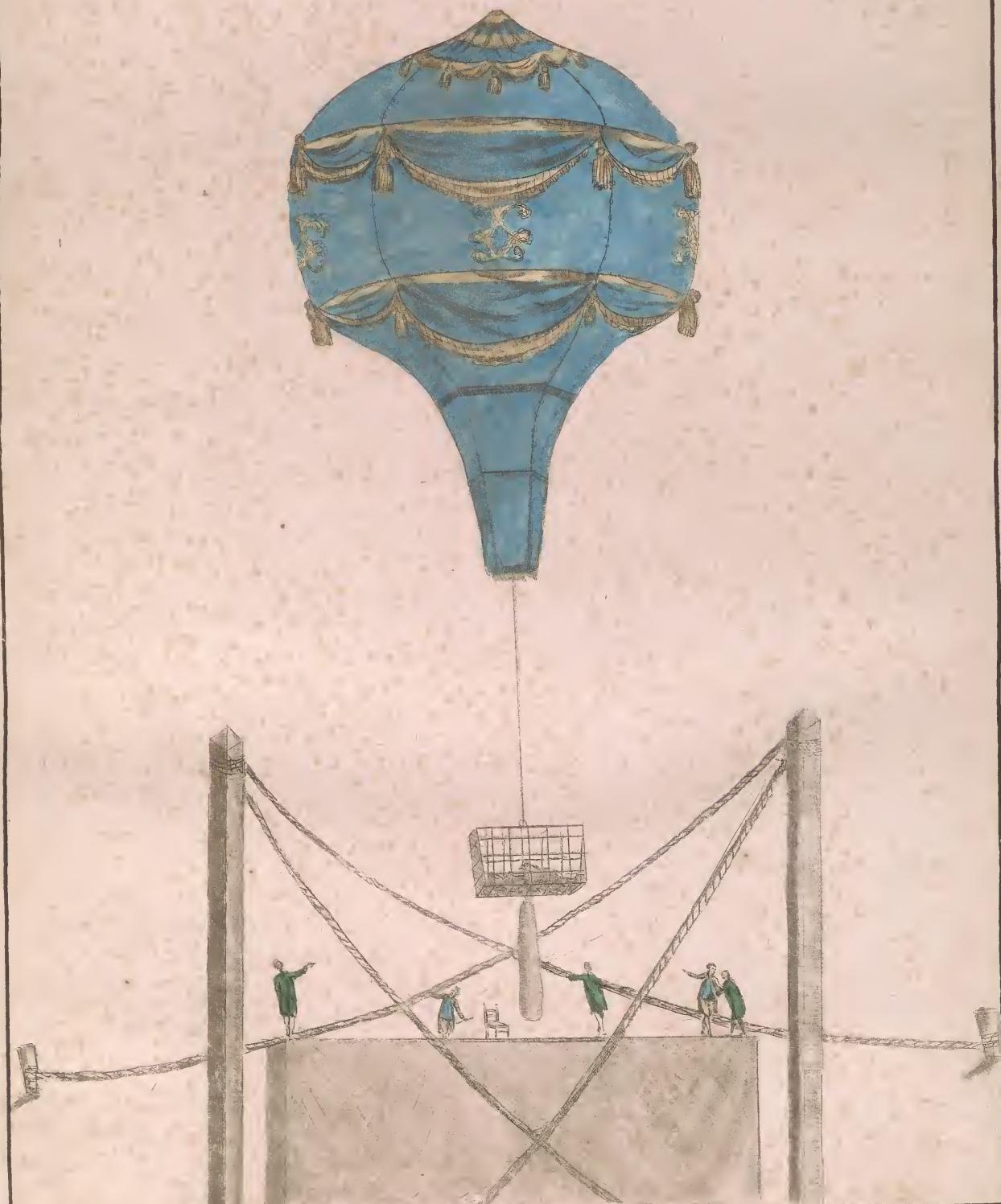


#### A MESSIEURS LES SOUSCRIPTEURS.

ALLARME GÉNÉRALE DES HABITANTS DE GONESSE, occasionnée par la chute du Ballon Aréostatique de M<sup>r</sup> De Montgolfier.  
Ce Ballon, de 38 pieds de circonférence, fut en Tissus enduit de gomme Elastique et plein d'Air Inflammable, tiré du Fer au moyen de l'acide Vitriolique, s'éleva de lui même au Champ de Mars à Paris, le 27 Aoust 1783, à 5. heures du Soir en présence de plus de 300 mille personnes. La pluie d'Orage qui survint dans l'instant où on l'abandonna, ne l'empêcha pas de s'élever avec un mouvement jusqu'au delà des Nuées. On presume qu'il fut porté à plus de vingt mille pieds de hauteur ou il creva par la réaction du Gaz Inflammable sur l'air Atmosphérique. Il tomba à 5. heures 3. quartes près de Gonesse à 10. milles du Champ de Mars. Les Habitants accoururent en foule, et deux Moines l'eurent ayant assuré que c'étoit la peau d'un Animal monstrueux, ils l'assaiillirent à coups de Pierres, de Fourches et de Fléaux; le Curé du lieu fut obligé de se transporter près du Ballon pour rassurer ses Paroissiens épouvanlés. Il attachèrent enfin à la queue d'un Cheval l'instrument de la plus belle expérience de Physique qui ait jamais été faite, et le trainèrent à plus de mille toises à travers Champs.

Se vend à Paris chez Le Noir M<sup>d</sup> Fournisseur des Estampes du Cabinet du Roi, demeurant au Louvre.

LE GLOBE AEROSTATIQUE construit à Versailles a été placé dans la 1<sup>re</sup> Cour du Château, dite Cour des Ministres, sur un échafaud de 60 pieds quarré et 8 de hauteur, 100 ouvriers environ travaillaien aux préparatifs, et le tout étoit enfermé d'une toile pour empêcher le public de voir ce qu'il se pavoit intérieurement. Ce Globe de la capacité de 60 pieds de haut et 40 de diamètre, fond d'azur, son pavillon et ses ornemens couleur d'or, contenant 4000 pieds cubes de gaz, pouvoit enlever douze cent livres pesant; cependant il n'a été chargé que de six cent, sans compter son poids naturel qui étoit de sept à huit cent, on y a attaché une cage dans laquelle étoit enfermé un mouton; et le 19 juillet 1783 à une heure après midi, ayant été rempli d'air inflammable, il s'est enlevé en présence du Roi et de la Famille Royale. Sa direction formoit avec la méridienne vers le couchant un angle de 87 degrés 40 minutes, l'angle au dessous de l'horizon étoit d'un deg. 55 m. 55 sec. ce qui donne une hauteur de 293 toises au dessus du rez-de chaussee de l'Observatoire; le diamètre apparent étoit d'environ 6 mètres, ce qui indiquoit que la machine s'approchoit de l'Observatoire; et en effet elle a été portée sur Paris à 1800 toises du point de son départ au Carrefour Marechal, dans le Bois de Vaucresson près le chemin aux Bœufs où il est tombé.





*EXPERIENCE AEROSTATIQUE FAITE A VERSAILLES le 19 Sept. 1783.  
En Presence de leurs Majestés de la Famille Royale et de plus de  
130 mille Spectateurs par M<sup>me</sup> de Montgolfier avec un Ballon de 57  
Pieds de hauteur sur 41 de Diamètre. Cette superbe Machine s'élève dans  
les airs à une grande hauteur à la surprise des Spectateurs et au bruit des  
acclamations publics elle descendit lentement 8 minutes après à 1700 toises  
de distance du point de son départ dans le bois de Vaucresson Carrefour  
Marechal Le Mouton le Coq et le Canard n'éprouverent aucune incommodité.*

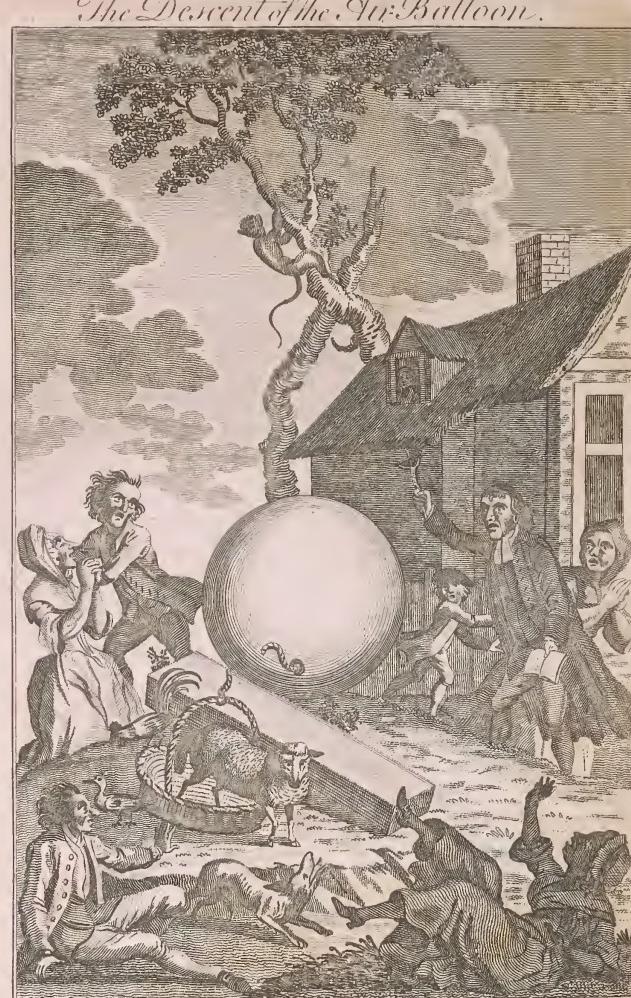


*Experience faite à Versailles en présence de leurs Majestés et de la Famille Royale  
par M<sup>me</sup> Montgolfier, le 19. Sept. 1783.  
La Machine Aerostatique avoit 57 Pieds de haut, sur 41 de Diamètre.*



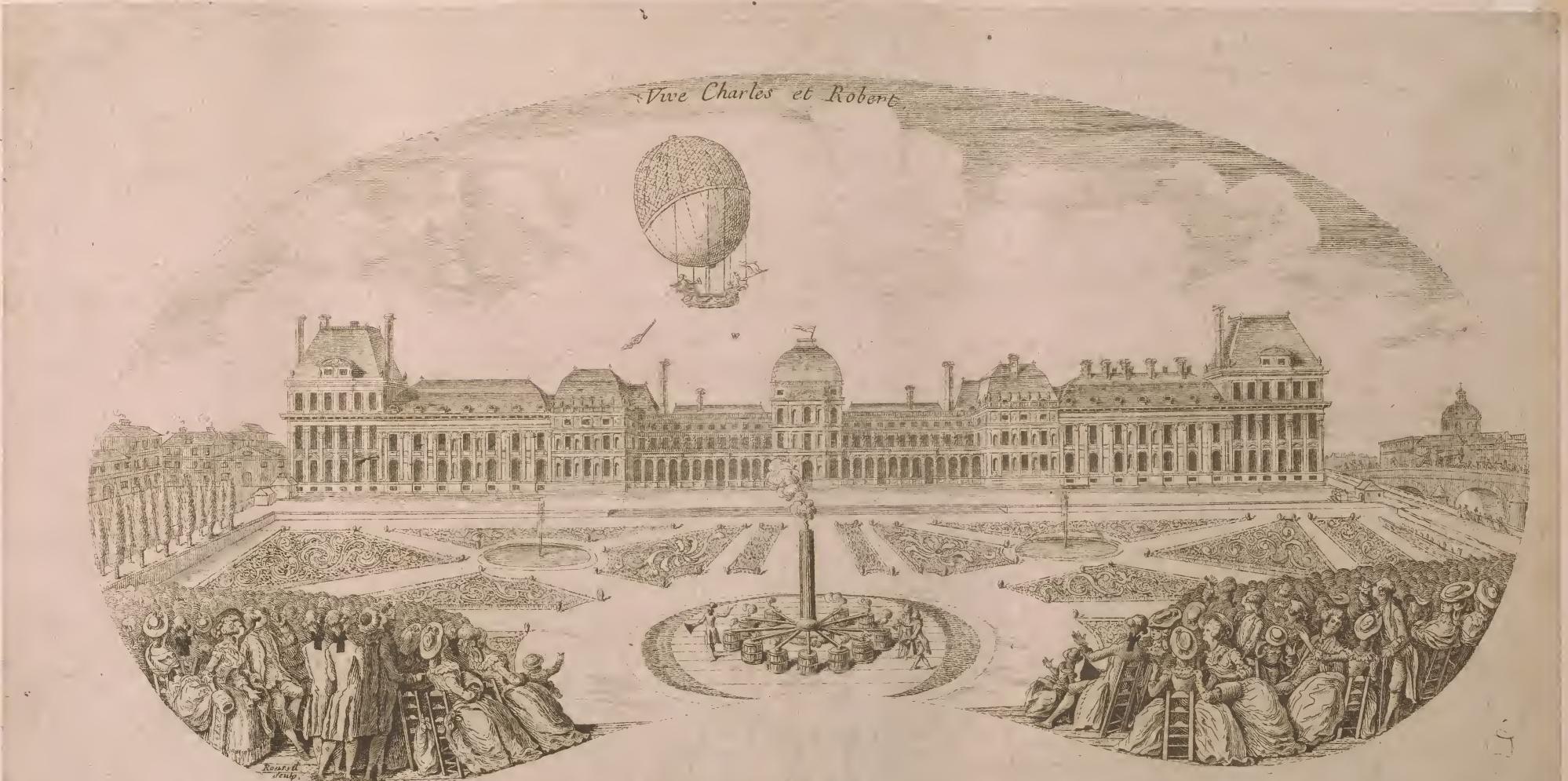
*The Descent of the Aerial Balloon.*

*Published Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 1783, by J. Fielding, Peter-Noster-Row.*

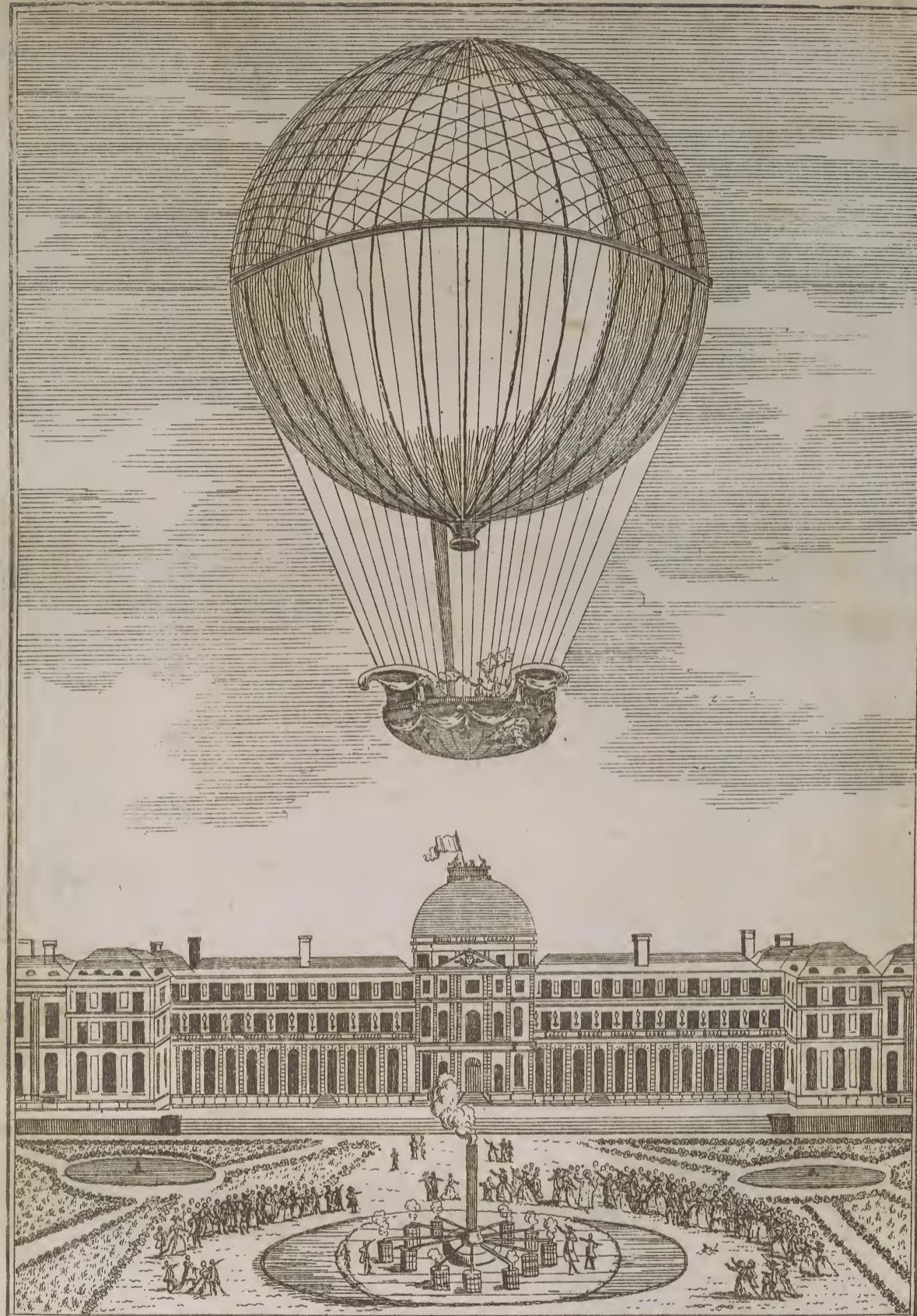


*Monsieur de Montgolfier's Air Balloon after having Ascended on Friday  
being heightly above the Clouds & being carried in the Air 15 Leagues fell  
down near a Cottage, where the poor Country People were exceedingly frightened  
& Astonished, the Cock, Sheep, & the Duck, came out of the Basket which had been  
tied to it, unhurt.*

*Published Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 1783, by J. Fielding, Peter-Noster-Row.*



Bon Voyage.



EXPÉRIENCE DU GLOBE AÉROSTATIQUE DE MM. CHARLES ET ROBERT, au Jardin des Tuilleries.  
le 1<sup>er</sup> Décembre 1783.

Le même jour à trois heures trois quarts après midi, la Machine Aérostatische est descendue dans une prairie entre Nesle et Hédouville, à 9 lieues de Paris. Le Procès Verbal en a été fait dans la Machine par M. Charles, et signé par MM. Charles, Robert, Jean Burgaret Curé de Neuilly, Charles Philippe Curé de Frémy, Thomas Huin Syndic de cette Paroisse et l'heureux Curé d'Hédouville. M<sup>r</sup> le Due de Chartres et M<sup>r</sup> de Flia James qui sont arrivés un quart d'heure après ont honoré ce Procès Verbal de leur Signature. A quatre heures un quart M<sup>r</sup> Charles a remonté dans la Machine et a continué seul sa route environ une lieue et demie dans l'espace de 35 minutes; il est descendu dans des friches d'où ayant été aperçu par un Gentilhomme Anglais, il l'engagea à passer la nuit chez lui; il revint le lendemain à Paris. Il a rapporté que la Machine Aerostatique n'avait souffert aucun accident.

A Paris chez Esnauts et Rapilly, rue S<sup>e</sup> Jacques, à la Ville de Coutances.



*La Folie du Jour.*

*Dirigé par l'artiste l'aîné, Rue de Sorbonne N° 385.*

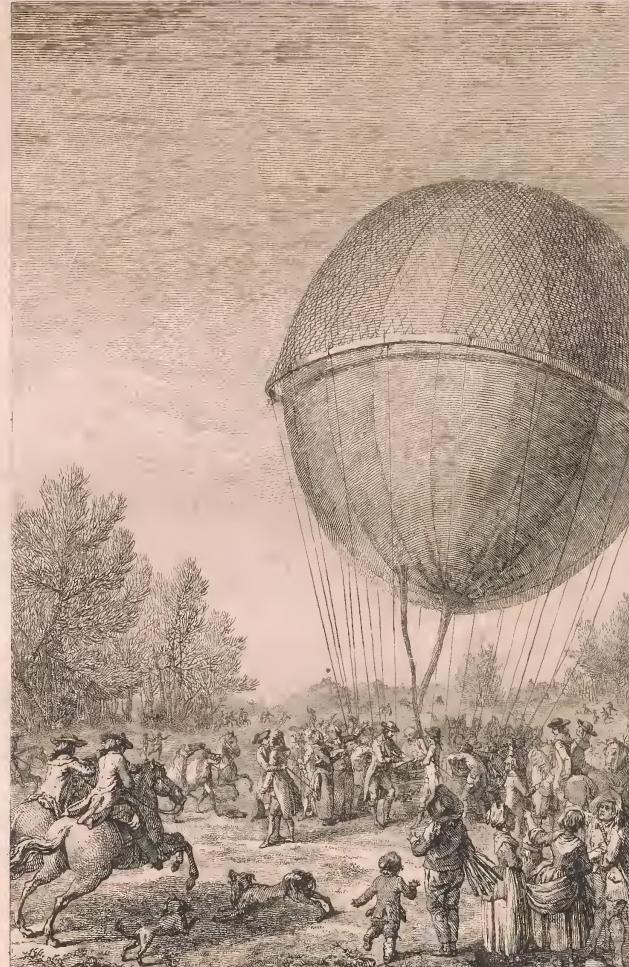


**EXPERIENCE CELEBRE FAITE A PARIS.**  
En Presence de plus de 8 cent mille personnes fait le Jardin R<sup>e</sup> des Thailleries le 1<sup>r</sup> Janvier 1784 à 2 heures, à près midi; Cette Machine merveilleuse montée par M<sup>r</sup> Charles et Robert le Jeune s'élant élevé majestueusement à la hauteur considérable a pris sa direction au Nord Ouest et a parcouru l'espace de 9 lieues dans l'intervalle de 2 h. 5 min.  
A Paris chez Basset rue St. Jacques.



**LA DESCENTE DU GLOBE AEROSTATIQUE**  
Dans la Prairie de Nesle.  
Cette Superbe Machine est descendue dans la Plaine de Nesle près de Beaumont sans aucun accident en présence de M<sup>r</sup> le Duc de Chartres, et M<sup>r</sup> le Duc de Fitz James à 4 heures et demie M<sup>r</sup> Charles est reporté seul dans la même Machine et s'est élevé en 10 minutes à la hauteur de 1524 toises et est redescendu très heureusement dans les Friches du Bois de la Tour du Lay à 2 lieues et demie du point de son départ.

A Paris chez Basset rue St. Jacques.



M<sup>r</sup> le Duc de Chartres et M<sup>r</sup> le Duc de Fitz James signent le Procès Verbal qui constate l'arrivée de MM. Charles et Robert dans la Prairie de Nesle près d'Hedouville.  
A Paris chez Tilliard Graveur, Quai des Grands Augustins,  
Maison de M. J. Debure Fils, Aine Libraire.

*Account of the AERIAL VOYAGE, performed by  
Messrs. CHARLES and ROBERTS.*

"PREVIOUS to our ascent," says Mr. Charles, "we had sent up a globe of five feet eight inches, to discover the course of wind, and mark out our intended route. The compliment of cutting the string was paid to Mr. Montgolfier, and it instantly rose. Meanwhile we prepared to follow it with impatience, but the perplexing circumstances we were in, prevented our putting into execution every minute particular that we had intended the night before. The globe and the chariot were in exact equilibrium on the ground. At three quarters after one we threw out nineteen pounds of ballast, and rose in the midst of a profound silence, occasioned by the emotion and astonishment of both parties. Our first pleasing reflections on our escape from the persecution and calumny which had attacked us, were heightened by the majestic scene which presented itself to our view; on every side a most serene sky, without a cloud, and a most charming distant prospect. As we ascended by an accelerated progressive motion, we waved our banner in token of joy, and, in order the better to insure our safety, I was particularly attentive to the barometer. Mr. Robert examined the cargo with which our friends had ballotted our chariot, as for a long voyage, of champaign, &c. blankets, and furs. Having enough, and to spare, he began with throwing out one of the blankets, which spread itself in the air, and fell near the dome of the Assumption. The barometer then sunk sixty-six inches, and we had ceased to ascend, or, more properly speaking, we arrived at the height of about three hundred toises. This was the height at which I had undertaken to stop, and from this moment, to that of our first getting out of sight of the observers at the different stations, our horizontal course was between twenty-six inches, and twenty-six inches eight lines of the mercury, which agrees with the observations made at Paris. We took care to throw out our ballast in proportion as we descended by the insensible loss of inflammable air, and we raised ourselves sensibly to the same height. Had circumstances permitted us to regulate this ballast with more exactness, our course would have been absolutely horizontal and voluntary.

Having reached the height of Montereau, which we left a little to the left, we remained for a moment stationary. Our chariot turned about, and we then filed off as the wind directed. We soon after passed the Seine, between St. Ouen and Asnieres, and leaving Colombe on the left, passed almost over Gennevilliers. We had crossed the river a second time: leaving Argenteuil on the left, at Sanois, Franconville, Eubonne, St. Leu-Taverny, Villiers, crossed L'Isle Adam, and afterwards Nefle, where we descended. Such were nearly the places over which we must have passed almost perpendicularly. This passage makes about nine Paris leagues, which we ran over in two hours, with scarcely any sensible agitation in the air. During the whole of this delightful journey, we felt, at the least uneasiness about our own fate, or that of the machine. The globe suffered no other alteration than the successive modifications of dilation and compression, of which we availed ourselves, to rise or descend at pleasure, in any quantity. The thermometer was, for above an hour, between ten and twelve degrees above 0, owing to the inside of our chariot having been warmed by the rays of the sun. Its heat soon communicated itself to our globe, and contributed, by the dilation of the inflammable air within, to keep us at the same height, without being obliged to lighten our ballast; but we suffered a great loss: the inflammable air, dilated by the sun's heat, escaped by the appendage to the globe, which we held in our hands, and loosened, as circumstances required, to let out the air too much diluted. By this easy method we avoided the expansions and explosions which persons unacquainted with these matters apprehended. The inflammable air could not break its prison, since it had always a vent, and the atmosphere air could not get into the globe, since its pressure made the appendage serve as a valve to oppose its entrance.

After fifty-six minutes progress we heard the gun, which was the signal of our disappearing from the observers at Paris. Not being obliged to confine our course to an horizontal direction, as we had till then done, we gave ourselves up to the contemplation of the varied scenes in the open country beneath us. We shouted *Vive le Roi*, and heard our shouts re-echoed. We heard, very distinctly, voices saying, "Are not you afraid, my friends? Are not you sick? What a clever thing it is! God preserve you! Farewell, my friends!" — We continued waving our banners, and we saw that these signals redoubled the joy and security of those below. We several times came down low enough to be heard: people asked us whence we came, and what time we set out; and we ascended adding them farewell. As circumstances required, we threw out, successively, great coats, muffs, and cloaths. As we sailed over L'Isle Adam, we flourished our banners, and asked after the Prince of Conti; but had the mortification to be told, by a speaking trumpet, that he was at Paris. At length, re-ascending we reached the plains of Nefle about half after three, when, as I intended a second expedition, and wished to avail myself of the advantage of situation, as well as of the day-light, I proposed to Mr. Roberts to descend. Seeing a troop of country people running before us over the fields, we descended towards a spacious meadow, inclosed with some trees and bushes. Our chariot advanced majestically along a long inclined plane. As it approached the trees, fearing it might be entangled among them, I threw out two pounds of ballast, and it sprung upwards over them. We ran above twenty toises within one or two feet of the land, and looked like travellers in a sledge. The country people pursued us as children do a butterfly, without being able to overtake us. At length we came to the ground. As soon as the curate and syndics could be brought to the spot, I drew up a verbal process, which they immediately signed. Presently galloped up the Duke de Chartres, the Duke de Fitz James, Mr. Farer, an English gentleman, and a number of horsemen, who had followed us from Paris. Fortunately we alighted near a hunting seat of the latter, who immediately mounted his horse, and riding up to us exclaimed, "Mr.

Charles, I am first." The Prince embraced us both in our chariot, and immediately signed the process, so did the Duke de Fitz James. Mr. Farer signed it three times. His signature was omitted in the journal, for he was so transported with joy, that he could not write legibly. Of above 200 horsemen who followed us from Paris, only these could overtake us; the rest had knocked up their horses, or given out. After relating a few particulars to the Duke de Chartres, I told him I was going off again, when would he have me return? he replied, in half an hour. Mr. Roberts quitted the chariot, as we had agreed. Thirty peasants held down the machine. I asked for some earth to ballast it, having not above four or five pounds left. A spade was not at hand, nor were there any stones in the meadow. The sun was near setting. I made a hasty calculation of the time requisite of weight, and giving a signal to the peasants to quit their hold, I sprung up like a bird. In 20 minutes I was 1500 toises high, out of sight of all terrestrial objects. I had taken the necessary precautions against the explosion of the globe, and prepared to make the observations which I had promised myself. In order to observe the barometer and thermometer placed at the ends of the chariot, without altering the centre of gravity. I knelt down in the middle, stretching forwards my body and one leg, holding my watch and paper in my left, and my pen and the string of the valve in my right hand, waiting for the event. The globe, which, at my setting out, was rather flaccid, swelled insensibly. The air escaped in great quantities at the valve. I drew the valve from time to time, to give it two vents; and I continued to ascend, still loosing air, which issued out hissing, and became visible, like a warm vapour in a cold atmosphere. The reason of this phenomenon is obvious. On earth the thermometer was seven degrees above the freezing point; after ten minutes ascent it was five degrees below. The inflammable air had not had time to recover the equilibrium of its temperature. Its elastic equilibrium being quicker than that of the heat, there must escape a greater quantity than that which the external dilation of the air could determine by its least pressure. For myself, though exposed to the open air, I passed in ten minutes from the warmth of spring to the cold of winter; a sharp dry cold, but not too much to be borne, I declare, that in the first moment I felt nothing disagreeable in the sudden change. When the barometer ceased to rise, I marked exactly 18 inches 10 lines, the mercury suffering no sensible oscillation. From this oscillation I deduct a height of 1524 toises, or thereabouts, till I can be more exact in my calculation. In a few minutes more my fingers were benumbed by the cold, so that I could not hold my pen. I was now stationary, and moved only in an horizontal direction. I rose up in the middle of the chariot, to contemplate the scene around me. At my setting out the sun was set on the vallies; he soon rose for me alone, who was the only luminous body in the horizon, and all the rest of nature in shade, the sun himself presently disappeared, and I had the pleasure of seeing him set twice in the same day. I beheld, for a few seconds, the circumambient air, and the vapours rising from the vallies and rivers. The clouds seemed to rise from the earth, and collect one upon another, still preserving their usual form, only, their colour was grey and monotonous from the want of light in the atmosphere. The moon alone enlightened them, and shewed me that I was tacking about twice, and I observed certain currents that brought me back again. I had several deviations; and observed, with surprize, the effects of the winds, and saw the streamers of my banners point upwards. This phenomenon was not the effect of the ascent or descent, for I then moved horizontally. At that instant I conceived, perhaps a little too hastily, the idea of being able to steer one's own course. In the middle of my transports I felt a violent pain in my right ear and jaw, which I ascribed to the dilation of the air in the cellular construction of those organs, as much as to that of the external air. I was in a waistcoat, and bareheaded. I immediately put on a woolen cap, yet the pain did not go off but as I gradually descended. For seven or eight minutes I had ceased to ascend; the condensation of the internal inflammable air rather made me descend. I now recollect my promise to return in half an hour, and, pulling the upper valve, I came down. The globe was now so much emptied, that it appeared only an half globe. I perceived a fine ploughed field near the wood of Tour du Lay, and hastened my descent. When I was between 20 and 30 toises from the earth, I threw out half a pound of ballast, and became, for a moment, stationary, till I descended gently in the field, above a league from the place whence I set out. The frequent deviations and turnings about make me imagine that the voyage was about three leagues, and I was gone about 33 minutes. Such is the certainty of the combinations of our aeronautic machine, that I can at pleasure complete 130 specific lightness, the preservation of which, equally voluntarily, might have kept me in the air at least for twenty four hours longer. When the two Dukes saw me at a distance coming down, they and the rest left Mr. Roberts to meet me, and hastened to Paris; and the Prince himself most kindly undertook to give the public an account of us."



*Extract of a letter from Lille, in Flanders, dated Sept. 18, 1784.*

"Messrs. Charles and Roberts are just arrived at the Prince of Ghislain's villa, about three miles from this town. They came from Paris in a vehicle attached to a balloon, without once descending to the earth till they reached the Prince's. As the distance is at least one hundred and thirty miles, it is by far the longest aerial journey that has yet been taken with a balloon, and from the adroitness with which they conducted their vehicle, there is little doubt but this new sort of conveyance may be rendered essentially useful.—The two brothers intended mounting again, and making an aerial voyage to London, but all their inflammable air was spent, and the expence of re-charging the balloon, would be full five hundred pounds; their tour to Great Britain is therefore, deferred for the present."

*Extract of a letter from Paris, Sept. 23. 1784.*

"On Sunday, the 29th inst. a Balloon, of an oblong shape, ascended from the Tuilleries at a quarter past twelve o'clock; there were about 18,000 of the first people in France, who paid three livres each for a place in the Thulleries, and about four thousand people who assembled to see it. Its length was about 100 feet round, and in breadth about sixty. It was constructed by the Messrs. Roberts, who ascended in it with another gentleman; it descended at five minutes after six o'clock, near a place called Betherne, about 140 miles from the Tuilleries. The day was hot and clear when they departed, but a thunder-storm arose about three o'clock;—yet it did them no harm, though they were in it. M. Roberts never suffered it to go higher than about 70 yards above the highest houses. It had a noble effect, and went with astonishing rapidity."

1704

instant, at forty minutes past six in the afternoon.—That after their descent, at our desire, they raised themselves again to the height of about 200 feet, and descended again immediately, having at the same time several bags of sand in their car.—That the subscribers having engaged to see their aerolet carried to Beauvry Castle, they were obliged, on account of the intervening trees, the houses, and the coming on of the night, to empty the machine of the inflammable air.

Given and attested at the desire of the Messrs. Robert and Hullin, at Beauvry Castle, this 20th of September 1784.  
(Signed) *Le Prince de Ghislain Richebourg,*  
*Le Prince de Richebourg,*  
*Lereux et Leroy.*  
(Attested) *Gottran, Grand Bailli.*

PARIS, SEPT. 25. The Messrs. Robert and their fellow-traveller M. Hullin returned yesterday to this city. They will publish in a few days a detail of their experiments and observations. They travelled, attached to an air-balloon, from Paris to the village of Beauvry, near Bethune, a journey of 150 miles, which they performed in six hours and forty minutes. Beauvry is the residence of the Prince de Ghislain, and of the Prince de Richebourg, his son. The two Princes had that day given a splendid entertainment to their tenantry and neighbours, and the company were beginning to separate when the Roberts came in sight. The travellers, in descending at the entreaties of the people, were very near striking their machine against a mill, and to avoid this they exercised their oars, and with an admirable manœuvre made a semi-circle in the full view of the assembly, and within thirty feet of the ground; by this means they landed in the centre of the field, from whence they were conducted, amidst the shouts of the people, to the Prince's castle, by whom they were received with marks of the greatest delight. They were crowned both in the castle, and in the city of Bethune. At the latter place the Marquis de Gouy, who was there with his regiment, gave a grand *fête* on the Monday in honour of the brothers. 1784

These preliminaries being settled, at half an hour after eleven o'clock, on Sunday, the aerostatic globe was conducted with great pomp by the gate of the grand walk to the terrace prepared for it opposite the castle. The four cords were held by four of the most distinguished persons in the kingdom,

M. le Marchal de Richelieu,  
M. le Marchal de Biron,  
M. le Bailli de Suffren, and  
M. le Due de Chaulnes.

When it came to the terrace, the three travellers, viz. the brothers Robert, and M. Colin Hullier, their brother-in-law, took their seats in the car; and the balloon at that time ascended about twenty feet from the ground, to give room for the necessary instruments being placed in and over the car, which consisted of a barometer, thermometer, a seaman's compass, and a watch; five poles, each about ten feet long, with umbrellas at the end of them, were taken into the car, and placed in the following manner, two on the larboard, and two on the starboard quarters, and one at the head; the car, with the balloon over it, was then drawn, amidst the acclamations of many thousand people of the first rank, about 200 yards, to a scaffold which was formed over the basin of water, and in a very short time the whole of the apparatus was properly adjusted; two smoke guns were then fired from the top of the Thulleries in order to shew the way of the wind. It being then about twelve o'clock the gentlemen waved their flags as a signal for their departure, and on a cannon being fired, two ropes which held the balloon were immediately cut, and the whole together began to ascend in a perpendicular direction, to the height of about 400 yards. After having continued at this height about 45 minutes, the travellers descended near the apparent horizon, almost to the earth, and ascended again immediately. At 57 minutes past 12 they descended again, and mounted in an instant. At 13 minutes past one they descended a third time, and were for a minute lost behind the hills which bound the horizon towards St. Prix. They were observed on their re-ascent; and it was ascertained that on every new elevation they mounted higher than in the preceding one. At this time they appeared about a degree and a half above the horizon, which, estimating their distance, at 10 or 12 leagues, states their actual height to be between five and six hundred toises\*. At 50 minutes past one they disappeared from the best glasses. The wind at their departure was S. E. but it became soon after more southerly. The balloon evidently went with the wind, both at first and after its change. They bore at first to the left from the observer at the Thulleries, and afterwards veered considerably to the right. The travellers seemed to have the power of navigating their aerial vessel according to their desire; in the space of an hour they were over Chantilly, 30 miles from Paris; near Clermont they lowered the balloon at the villa of Mons. Fitzjames, who wished the Gentlemen to alight and refresh themselves, but they declined his invitation, declaring it was their intention to steer for England; they thereupon re-ascented and seeing a thunder storm coming on, they kept above it and escaped its effects; to the people of Chantilly the balloon did not appear larger than a hat. They were observed over the village of Ravenal, 20 leagues from Paris, at three o'clock in the afternoon, and they kept in view of the same observers, and saluted them with their flag over the village of Reye, which is seven leagues farther. They were seen also by M. de Saint Fulian, near Montdidier. At four minutes after six o'clock in the evening, they came down at Bethune, between Lille and Arras, above 140 miles from Paris; they descended in a field, and threw out a rope to some peasants, who laid hold of it, but it broke, upon which the balloon went up with great velocity, but upon the adventurers letting out some gas, they came down again, and were safely landed on terra firma.

\* A toise is a fathom, or six feet.

In September, 1784, the Duke of Orleans, accompanied by Messrs. Robert, ascended in balloon furnished with oars and rudder; to this a small balloon was attached, for the purpose of being inflated with bellows, and thus supplying the means of descent

without waste of the hydrogen gas. Having attained the altitude of fourteen hundred feet, they were greatly alarmed at the sombre aspect of the horizon, and the reverberation of distant peals of thunder; being also, for a considerable time, exposed to the fury of a whirlwind; from a sudden change of temperature they began rapidly to descend, but, on discharging some ballast, they reascended to the height of six thousand feet, the balloon continuing to be greatly agitated. Having surmounted the stormy region, the rays of the sun, unobscured by a cloud, caused so great an expansion of the gas, that they entertained serious apprehensions of a rupture of the balloon. In this exigency the duke pierced it in several places with his sword, to facilitate the escape of the gas, and, having narrowly escaped falling into a lake, they descended unhurt, after an excursion of five hours.

Sep. 1784 PARISIAN INTELLIGENCE.  
THE Brothers, Robert, have procured leave to make their grand experiment in the Royal gardens of the Tuilleries. The price of their subscription is six livres for the admission of two persons.

Mon. Chon. Oct. 15. 1784.

Mr. SMEATHMAN's Account of the Balloon at Paris, concluded from our Paper of yesterday.

The Duke, accompanied by the two Roberts, and another assistant, entered the gallery with as much gaiety as he could have mounted his carriage, amidst the clapping and plaudits of the wondering multitude. The gallery was retained a minute or two, at three or four feet distance from the earth, while a fine active old Abbe, fixed a balance to a staple at the balloon in the centre, and weighed the degree of levity with which they were going to ascend. This done, the machine was suffered to depart. The Duke saluted the company with his hat and great god bumper, while his attendants were busy in arranging their apparatus.

The Balloon took an oblique direction, and the aerial travellers seemed apprehensive of being entangled by the trees which surrounded the amphitheatre, and began to throw over their ballast, which consisted of sand and gravel. The Duke appeared to have discharged a pretty large bag, all at once, on the heads of some unfortunate spectators who, as you may imagine, were instantly put to the rout, and in great confusion. In consequence they ascended with too much rapidity, and, as I had foretold, in about three minutes, entered the fog, using their cars, but without any apparent effect, and quickly disappeared. You cannot perhaps imagine a more extraordinary sight. A stranger just arrived from some distant land, to have entered at the moment of a cession, would have begun to believe in the heathen mythology. He might very naturally have thought the Duke some deity, who, like Jupiter or Bacchus of old, had been taking a ramper upon earth, and having declared himself was receiving personal worship from his votaries; most of those surrounding his aerial car, kneeling in the most graceful posture of adoration. The crowd stood some minutes, contemplating, and as it were astonished at what they had seen. Others, however, rushed out as fast as possible, and took the same direction as the Balloon, on horseback or in carriages. We happened to follow the same course, in going to our country breakfast again at Seve. We had indeed quitted a good deal in examining the paintings in the Castle, where we met Mons. de Beaumarchais, the famous Poet, to whom I had the honour of being introduced with other gentlemen. Before we arrived at Seve, we were erroneously informed, that the machine was descended at the Castle of Mendon; that the Prince had quitted it, and the others were ascended again. Soon after we had begun our breakfast, we had a more exact and a more serious piece of intelligence, which was that the Balloon had burst, and fallen; that the gallery was broken in pieces, but none of the travellers injured. The Chevalier de Cubieres now expressed the highest satisfaction, that his brother had not ascended, for we were not without some apprehension for the travellers, although repeated accounts seem to confirm the former that they were in safety. We got into the coach and went up to the castle of Mendon, passing by Bellevue, the residence of Mesdames, of France. We saw the gallery inclosed in one of the halls of the Castle, but not in so ruinous a state as we expected. The Balloon itself was shut up out of sight. We there learned that after the Balloon had burst, the machine fell with great rapidity at first, but flower at the last, and on the side of a lake in the park, where a little boy, a cowkeeper, having more courage or more curiosity than two of his companions, who fled from our modern phæton, ran to their assistance, and drew them to the shore. That the Duke had borrowed a horse of some gentleman who arrived first, and without saying any thing to his to his unhappy shipmates, had set off full gallop to Paris, accompanied by some of his friends, whom he soon picked up on the road.— Various were the reports spread abroad on that day by the idle babblers of Paris, not few of them invented against the Duke de Chartres, who from his spirited contempt of some impudent neighbours, has incurred the hatred of many of the ignorant and the vulgar. The encouragement, however, which he has given in many instances, as well as in this I have just related, to the arts and sciences, entitle him to a very different treatment. Among others, he has within these three or four years, built one of the most magnificent squares, perhaps in the whole world, round the garden of his palace, and in which all the conveniences and all the luxuries of that city are assembled.

In fact his aerial voyage does him immortal honour, whether we consider it as protecting the sciences by his purse or his example. The experiment must have cost him two or three thousand pounds, and from the conceit and vanity of the persons he employed, he ran the risk of his life, if in fact there was any danger from mounting in Balloons. This and other accidents which have happened, demonstrate almost to a certainty that no danger is to be apprehended from the bursting of balloons, and that it is much safer embarking in one of them than in a packet boat. I believe there is no doubt the Duke preserved his presence of mind better than the rest of his companions, who, according to their own accounts, as I am informed, almost gave themselves up as lost. I shall now give it to you, as nearly as I can recollect it, from the Marquis de Cubieres, who related it at my apartment the next day to the Duke de Chartres, Baron Nolens, his Swedish Majesty's Ambassador at this Court, Mr. Vigorous, and myself.

As the Marquis had come directly from the Duke de Chartres, where he had been at breakfast, and had the relation from his friend himself, you may guess it is pretty authentic. Before I can relate the fact, it will be necessary to give you some idea of the interior construction of the Ballon, of which the Roberts, among other things, made also a mystery. It having been found by experiment, as well as in theory, that the inflammable air expands in proportion as the balloon rises in the atmosphere, and that unless some of it is discharged, or room left or provided for it, it will inevitably burst the Balloon; in order to prevent such an accident, and the loss of the inflammable air, which is, at present, exceedingly expensive, they contrived a smaller balloon to be placed within the larger, which being filled by means of a pair of bellows with common atmospheric air, might, by means of a cock, be emptied and leave the space which it occupied, when full, to be filled by the elastic gaz or inflammable air. For this purpose there was also contrived a long tube or trunk of varnished silk, which reached from the interior balloon, through a perforation properly closed into one end of the gallery. There was also a long trunk of the same materials, which was made to descend into the other end of the gallery, that in case the room obtained, in the great balloon by the elastic air, comprising all the atmospheric air, out of the small balloon, was not sufficient, they might be able to let some of it off to waste. This was their great secret, of which, however, a Member of the Academy also claimed the invention.

Their other secrets were the method of directing, above-mentioned, quite unphilosophical and ridiculous, their method of varnishing and joining the silk, which proved defective, as they lost incessantly a great quantity of gaz; and their method of making and introducing the gaz, by which they melted their tin tubes, hurt themselves, and endangered the balloon. These gentlemen however were too wise to be advised, and therefore consulted nobody; and the consequence was nearly fatal to the Prince and themselves.

Having thrown out a great deal of ballast as they went off, they had lightened their machine too precipitately and ascended with vast rapidity. Some mismanagement or some accident prevented them in their hurry, from opening the tube which was to let out the atmospheric air inclosed in the interior balloon, and to add to their embarrassment, they had set off in the very worst moment which could have been chosen. Within ten minutes after they were gone, we observed the thick fog, which hung over our heads at about two hundred feet from the earth, began to break and to separate, and in consequence our adventurers found themselves involved amidst a great number of broken clouds just rising by the influence of the sun's rays, and dispersing with great violence. They found themselves suddenly involved in clouds of rain, and higher up of sleet and snow, and whirled about in various directions with great velocity and bustle. In this confusion, the interior balloon not being evacuated burst, with a report, the Duke said, equal to that of an eight pounder, and immediately the great balloon began to swell and strain with great noise: at the same time ascending with great rapidity. The danger then began to be very great and very evident. The Roberts endeavoured to let off the inflammable air, but when they tried they found the tube was stopped, by the ruins of the interior balloon which had fallen upon the interior orifice.

They had some small bags in the boat fixed to git slaves with pikes upon the heads, and with one of them endeavoured to remove the obstruction but without success. The swelling and straining of the balloon increasing, and there being a certainty of its bursting sooner or later, the elder Roberts cried out that their lives depended upon piercing the balloon. The Duke with great coolness told them not to be rash, and to be very clear of the necessity of the operation before they put it in practice. They repeatedly assured him of the necessity of it before he would consent. He was equally deliberate in choosing the place where he was to give the fatal stroke, it being the point of honour as Commander in Chief for him to perform it. They told him that it was quite immaterial, that any where over his head, where he could most conveniently reach it would be equally proper. He accordingly thrust the pike of the colours into the part nearest. At the very instant the breach rent, on each side, from end to end seventy-two feet in length and discharged the whole contents. They immediately fell with great rapidity, but the upper part of the balloon remaining sound, became converted into an immense parabute (or safefall) and felt such a resistance from the column of air underneath, as to retard their descent considerably.

In this situation the Duke proposed taking a parting bumper, but having forgot a cork screw, they were obliged to return the bottle to its place, and so far were they in reality from imminent danger, that out of half a dozen bottles, only one of them was broken by being jolted against another. They had also time to call a boy, as I observed, to throw him a rope or cord to tow them off of a lake, and discharged a bag of sand at but a little distance from the earth, by which means they escaped falling into the middle of the lake. I am informed since, that the Duke has ordered it to be repaired, meaning to have some further experiments tried, and it is much to be wished that he may have the gratification of being successful. In the mean time report says, he has settled a handsome annuity on the young herdman. He has since made a trip to England, and again returned to France, where he is probably meditating another aerial journey.

I remain very respectfully,  
Your most obliged and  
Faithful humble servant,  
HENRY SMEATHMAN.

M. Charles, who was the first aeronaut who ascended at Paris for a regular aerial voyage, enjoyed, through the munificence of Louis XVI., apartments in the Tuilleries, where he prosecuted his chemical and philosophical studies. When the palace was attacked on the 10th of August, 1792, the assailants penetrated to his apartments, and were about to assassinate him, when he declared who he was, and pointed to the car of the balloon in which he made his first ascent, and which was fortunately in the room. The crowd, remembering with delight the impression which his bold attempt had made upon them, left him, not only without doing him personal injury, but also respecting his property. 1783

We hear from Paris, that the monument talked of in 1783, to perpetuate the memory of the departure of Messieurs Charles and Robert, from the Tuilleries, in their aerial machine, is now under consideration, and an obelisk is to be erected for the above purpose, in the Cours-la-Raine, between the river Seine and the Champ-de-Mars. The building of a new bridge from the place Louis XV. is also resolved upon. 1785

On hearing it is remarked that no ENGLISHMAN had as yet either attempted, or improved on the AIR BALLOONS.

1784. FRANCE has been deem'd a land of slaves,  
But let the Grand Monarque beware,  
His subjects swear they will be free,  
And seek for freedom in the air.  
See Roberts and Montgolfier lead  
All Paris in a dance;  
Those airy journeys well become  
The light-heeld sons of France.  
The foggy Dutchman (strange to think!)  
The stars already reaches,  
In Air Balloon he smokes his pipe,  
And mounts in spite of breeches.  
Thro' Spain the madnes quickly spread,  
And journeys to the moon  
By new Don Quixotes now are plann'd,  
Perform'd in Air Balloon.  
Tho' Albion's sons for easie faith  
Throughout the world are known,  
No Briton yet sublime has soar'd,  
Or thro' the Ether flown.  
See Holland, France, and Spain unite  
New regions to explore,  
And let them fight, and conquer, where  
They never fought before.  
Britannia, when their toil is done,  
Will then begin her wars,  
And rise all the spoils they gain'd  
In Sun, or Moon, or Stars.

C. M.

Jan. 11. LUNARDI'S BALLOON. 1785

THE Pantheon will be open every Day This Week, for the Exhibition of the NEW BALLOON, which forms the BRITISH FLAG, in which Mr. LUNARDI means to ASCEND with his FRIEND from the ARTILLERY GROUND.

As the NEW GALLERY and other MACHINERY, with which he intends to ascend next time, are not completed, there shall be a PAIR OF WINGS that extend thirty-eight feet, and are on such a construction, that they will produce elevation, which were he to mention, might perhaps be received with incredulity.

The BALLOON is of 110 feet in circumference, surface 3850 square feet, and contains 22,458 cubic feet of air.

ADMITTANCE ONE SHILLING.

On Thursday last Mr. Lunardi made an experiment with part of his new gallery, at Blackfriars Bridge, where a great number of people assembled. It is so constructed as to defy the power of the waves, and to be rendered of utility at sea (in case of danger) as well as in the air. Though it is made of white metal, it does not exceed the weight of 64 pounds; and the circumference being 22 feet, will accommodate 12 persons with the greatest safety. The principal object was to know what weight it would carry; a foundry being nigh, they put in a piece of iron, besides sand, that was 1800 weight, which it carried with ease, and the bottom of the gallery was 11 inches above the surface of the water. *Jan. 13. 1785*

PANTHEON. Feb. 21. MR. LUNARDI, willing to gratify the public curiosity, has prepared a New Balloon, which is now suspended at the Pantheon, its dimensions larger than any yet exhibited, its colours those which form the British Flag, embellished with the arms of his Majesty, and those of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The Gallery, which will afford seats for ten persons, does not exceed the weight of 76 pounds; it is richly and elegantly ornamented, and formed for sea or land. The oars for the air, and those for the water, are constructed on principles hitherto peculiar to Mr. Lunardi. But as it is impossible, in an advertisement, to describe an apparatus so complicated and useful, Mr. Lunardi will attend at the Pantheon, every day this week, except on Thursday, when the company are only admitted into the gallery, on account of the preparations, being Concert night.

Admittance ONE SHILLING.

PANTHEON. MR. LUNARDI has already experienced so much favour in England, that it would be the utmost indifference in him to draw attention to trivial subjects.

He has employed every moment allowed by the duty of gratifying public curiosity, to prepare a New Balloon, which is now suspended at the Pantheon, its dimensions larger than any yet exhibited, its colours those which form the British Flag, embellished with the arms of his Majesty, and those of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The Gallery, whose weight does not exceed 76 pounds, will afford seats for ten persons; it is richly and elegantly ornamented, and formed for sea or land. The oars for the air, and those for the water, are constructed on principles hitherto peculiar to Mr. Lunardi. But as it is impossible, in an advertisement, to describe an apparatus so complicated and useful, Mr. Lunardi will attend at the Pantheon, every day next week, except Thursday, from eleven to four; and will explain the purposes to be served by it.

Mr. LUNARDI, in his next Aerial Excursion, will be accompanied by an ingenious Friend. The excursion will be taken from the Artillery Ground, as the public will be respectfully informed, as soon as the necessary preparations will admit of fixing the time. *Feb. 18. 1785*

Admittance only ONE SHILLING.

The accident which happened on Saturday morning to Mr. Lunardi's balloon at the Pantheon, and the cause of its bursting, was by a large pane of glass which fell from the dome, and cut the silk; the accident, however, gave Mr. Lunardi a new opportunity of shewing at large to the public his feelings and generosity. The disappointment was not so great as might naturally be expected, as a small balloon and machinery, &c. (the true model of the large one in which Mr. L. means to ascend) was suspended in the Pantheon room, which much excited and satisfied the curiosity of the Company.—The new gallery and machinery were suspended, and the balloon, which was empty and laid on the floor, made a wonderful and immense appearance. Mr. Lunardi, in order to avoid every kind of dissatisfaction that might ensue, he presented every person that came, a ticket of admission for this day, which is the last of his attendance at the Pantheon, when he will ascend, between two and three o'clock, as high as the dome will permit, with a beautiful young lady; perhaps the very same lady will be the first aerial voyager that accompanies Misses. Lunardi and Biggin in the departure from the Artillery Ground to Calais, which will be as soon as the weather is settled. *Mar. 8. 1785*

MAR. PANTHEON. 1785 AS Mr. LUNARDI has nothing more at heart than to gratify the public curiosity in the most ample and satisfactory manner, and that to disappoint the general expectation in the smallest particular, would be inexpressibly repugnant to the sincere and grateful feelings he entertains of their past favours, he hastens to contradict an idea which is gone forth, of his intention to ascend on Tuesday next from the Artillery Ground. It is true, he did intimate, a considerable time ago, some thoughts of fixing on a day in Easter-week for the execution of his experiment, with the express addition that, at all events the public should certainly have a week's prior intelligence. He now takes the liberty to signify, that it is judged expedient by him, his friends, and the companions of his flight, to avit a total change of the weather, when the beauty of the scene he hopes to afford, will be more intimately felt, and pleasingly enjoyed; and the spectators, particularly the Ladies, not subject to the various changes of an unsettled sky in a place open and unsheltered as the Artillery Ground.

The exhibition of Mr. Lunardi's Balloon remains open as usual at the Pantheon; he has spared no pains or cost to render it elegant and magnificent to the eye, and to blend in the sumptuous parts of his machinery, the ornamental with the useful; in particular the British Flag displayed on the globe, heighened by his Majesty's arms on one side, and those of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on the other, produce a effect which he is extremely happy has met with the most general admiration.

On Monday next, between Two and Three o'clock, several Ladies, being desirous to try the nature of their sensations in the moment of elevation, will ascend with the Balloon as high as the Dome of the Pantheon will permit; and at that point of altitude several guns will be fired from the port-holes on the deck and at the stern of the boat, which forms the base of the gallery, in which the company will be seated, and which is now rendered more convenient, being surrounded on the inside by a sofa, sufficient to accommodate ten persons.

Admittance ONE SHILLING.

Tickets are now ready for delivery, at the Pantheon, at Five Shillings each, which will admit One Person into the Artillery Ground, who will be admitted to a seat near the Balloon, on the day of Mr. Lunardi's ascention.

In order to banish the most distant idea of fear, the civil power will be properly supported in preservation of the public peace, and prevention of any kind of disorder.

We understand that it was not to repair his balloon, that Mr. Sadler quitted Dover, and gave Blanchard an opportunity to cross the channel before him, but to assist his wife in the labors of Twelfth Day; and thus may it be said was English glory sacrificed to plumb-cake. *Jan. 11. 1785*

20<sup>th</sup> March. 1785

Yesterday, Mr. Lunardi performed his promise, and his balloon was drawn up as high as the dome would permit, under the command of two fair heroines. They were accompanied by four beautiful children, whose spirited behaviour gave great pleasure to a very large and brilliant company of fashionable people. We cannot but confess that it gave us infinite pleasure to see that Lunardi still keeps his justly deserved attraction in the opinion of that public, whose liberality has ever been bestowed upon every description of merit.

April 25. PANTHEON. 1785

AS the Ascension of the BALLOON in the Pantheon affords such a general satisfaction, it will be repeated This Day between two and three o'clock, when several Ladies will ascend with it in the new gallery, as high as the dome will permit, which is fifty feet; and at that point of elevation several pieces of cannon will be fired; and as a further entertainment to the company, music will be played constantly from twelve till five.

The Balloon is now completed for ascension, and will be exhibited this and every day. This Week, with an additional decoration, making the whole of St. George's Cross one beautiful transparency, which, blended with his Majesty's and the Prince of Wales's arms, renders the whole truly elegant.

Admittance One Shilling.

The doors will be opened from nine in the morning till dark.

N. B. Mr. LUNARDI will ascend from the Artillery Ground, on Wednesday the 18th of May, accompanied by a Lady and Gentleman.

Tickets of admission to be had at the Pantheon, at five shillings each.

April 26. PANTHEON. 1785

AS an Encouragement to Genius and Abilities, Mr. LUNARDI has engaged, in addition to the usual Amusements at the PANTHEON EXHIBITION, the MUSICAL CHILD, who will perform TO-MORROW from TWO till FOUR o'clock, and though but nine years of age, will take off several of our First Performers, and sing I play at eight; but it would be needless here to make any encomiums on her merit, as it has been so much distinguished and countenanced.

Admittance (as usual) ONE SHILLING.

The doors will be opened from nine in the morning till dark.

N. B. The Day of ASCENSION from the ARTILLERY GROUND, is fixed for the 18th of May next, when Mr. LUNARDI will be accompanied by a LADY and GENTLEMAN.

Tickets of admission to be had at the Pantheon, at Five Shillings each.

May 1. LUNARDI'S GRAND AIR BALLOON.

MR. LUNARDI is peculiarly happy in having lately experienced, that the attachment of the Public to him is in union with his feelings and partiality to this Nation; he therefore must beg leave to inform them, that he means to ascend with his Balloon, accompanied by a British Lady and Gentleman, some time next Week; and in the papers of To-morrow, the day shall be specified.

The generous attention of the Nobility and Gentry has made such a permanent impression on the mind of Mr. Lunardi, that he thinks it his duty not only to gratify every curiosity, but below general satisfaction; and that no Individual may be disappointed of seeing him ascend, there will be Places, at One Shilling each, separated from the Five-Shilling Divisions, but still affording a clear and distinct view of the whole, tho' at some little distance.

PANTHEON.

This Day, at Two and Four o'clock, several parties of Ladies may ascend with the Balloon in the Pantheon; when from One till Three the Musical Child, in addition to the usual entertainments, will play several capital pieces of Music, and sing some of our present favorite Airs.

Admittance ONE SHILLING.

LYCEUM in the STRAND. THE NOBILITY and GENTRY, who were pleased on TUESDAY to honour the intended Ascension of the British Balloon with their presence, having an undoubted right to a candid, ingenuous explanation of the cause of their disappointment, the Proprietor, humbly begs leave to inform them, that early in the Morning, an insidious attempt was made to deprive the undertaking of the generous support of the Public, by the distribution of hand-bills, purporting, that from the sudden indisposition of the Lady who was to have ascended from Tottenham-Court-road; the said Ascension was deferred till SATURDAY next.

Injurious as this base contrivance, and gross imposition, must necessarily have been, it was not apprehended that the Arts and Malice of selfish competitors could have extended any farther; but the very contrary was the case; for, during the Inflating Operation (which, previously, equalled the most sanguine expectation, and met with the particular approbation of the cognoscenti, under the function of curiosity) a Person of Foreign appearance (as can be fully attested) while the eyes of the managers were diverted by other objects, pulled the Cord which has the command of the Valve, with such fatal impetuosity, as to break the spring calculated to return it to its place; from which circumstance, and premeditated act of violence, (which was undiscovered till too late for reparation) the Valve remained open, and discharged the inflammable air, as fast as the Balloon received it; all endeavours to gratify the just expectations of the company, were consequently by this additional manoeuvre, rendered abortive; but, the design of ascending with a BRITISH LADY and a SCIENTIFIC GENTLEMAN, for the purpose of making Philosophical Experiments, is not relinquished by the Proprietor, who will certainly repeat the attempt, so soon as the late damages are properly repaired: in the mean time, those Ladies and Gentlemen, who paid for Admission and received checks, are respectfully requested to preserve them, to be exchanged for fresh Tickets, at the next Ascension; or to apply for the return of their money, if more agreeable. *May 7. 1785*

By PARTICULAR DESIRE. AND POSITIVELY the LAST DAY of EXHIBITION, IT is not only with Reluctance that Mr. LUNARDI acquiesces to a PARTICULAR REQUEST; but it is attended with numerous inconveniences; however, to prove that his utmost wish and interest is to be below universal satisfaction, and to prevent the disappointment of those Companies that arrived too late yesterday evening, he will OPEN the EXHIBITION at the PANTHEON THIS DAY from TWELVE o'clock till FIVE, when it will finally close. *11 May 1785*

A Band of Music will be provided to entertain the Company, and the BALLOON, NEW MACHINE, Instruments, and the whole of the Apparatus for ascension, will be exhibited and explained.

ADMITTANCE ONE SHILLING.

N. B. On Friday between Twelve and One o'clock, Mr. Lunardi will ascend from the above place, accompanied by his Friend and a Lady.

\* \* Tickets for that Day to be had, Five Shillings each, at the following places, viz. the Pantheon; Lloyd's Coffee-house; London Coffee house; Mr. Booker, Bookseller, No. 56, New Bond-street; Mr. Debrett's, Piccadilly; and at Misses. Nairne and Blaikie, No. 20, Cornhill.

Families, or small Parties may be accommodated with private

A Commodious Room to Lett, for the Day of Mr. Lunardi's ascending, with his Air Balloon, from the Artillery Ground, which commands a full prospect of all the apparatus, at No. 3, Bunhill-row. *May 11. 1785*

# LONDON CHRONICLE

May 12, 1785

The heroism of our fair COUNTRYWOMAN, the science of our ENGLISH PHILOSOPHER, the dexterity and experience of LUNARDI, together with the magnificence and immensity of his Balloon, and the grand and beautiful apparatus, with the instruments for useful experiments, are likely to afford us, to-morrow, the greatest scope for admiration and surprise. It will seem like another world rising peopled out of chaos. Every circumstance, indeed, seems to favour the most sublime and extravagant ideas, the ground appropriated for the purpose being spacious, and capable of containing sixty thousand people without inconvenience to each other; the regulations established are commodious and secure. Myriads of people countenanced by ROYALTY, and a train of courtiers in full splendour, will most richly enhance the general delight, and inspire the bold fugitives with celestial sensations. The confusion attending the chemical process will be avoided, by completing the inflation of the Balloon at an early hour; it will then be suffered to float in the air at a little distance from the earth till twelve o'clock, when the travellers mean to take their seats, and manoeuvre over the ground till near one, displaying their experimental management, in gratification to the spectators below; at one o'clock a general salute will commence by firing off cannon, and other displays of gallantry, in compliment to the busines of the day.

The travellers, we understand, have arranged their plan so as to promise some useful information to the Public from their experiments. The direction and government of the Balloon is to be under the management of Mr. LUNARDI; Mr. BIGGIN is to apply himself to PHILOSOPHICAL EXPERIMENTS, and THE LADY, who possesses a liberal and well-informed mind, proposes to make such observations on the general appearances, with reflections on their effects, as may not be uninteresting in the relation of them to her fair countrywomen on her return. The Public may therefore expect from this excursion, more real information than has hitherto been derived from aerial expeditions, especially as all the parties mean to travel as far as the Balloon will carry them, either by night, or by day; and hope, if the wind permits, to land on some foreign shore.

The ludicrous report of Mr. LUNARDI's having been confined in the King's Bench prison, and obtaining a day rule for the purpose of making an aerial excursion in his Balloon, reflects no great credit on the sagacity of the Marshall, unless, indeed, he meant the uncommon compliment to that enterprising genius, of risking the payment of his supposed debts, especially as the object of the ensuing voyage puts it out of his own power to answer for the certainty of his return, as he has publicly declared by his advertisements, that he means to attempt a passage over the ocean to the Continent, in company with his heroic companions, if the wind will favour their attempts. The fact however is, upon particular enquiry, that Mr. Lunardi has never been within the walls of the King's Bench, or any other prison, upon any occasion whatever, nor was he acquainted even with its situation, before it was described to him within these few days, on being jocularly informed of these flying reports.

## LUNARDI'S AERIAL EXPEDITION.

May 12.

Mr. Lunardi having completed his process, according to his promise to the public, this day, at a little past one, ascended from the Artillery Ground. From the heat of the atmosphere, the air was not sufficiently buoyant to suspend the balloon, so as to admit of its carrying the lady who was to have attended the adventurous Italian. Mrs. Sage, the first female candidate, was found to have more gravity than belonged to a wife name. Other ladies instantly began to dispute the palm for volatility, but none were deemed sufficient light. Mr. Biggin was also among the candidates, but could not be accommodated.

Mr. Lunardi, thus circumstanced, determined to ascend alone. He rose slowly, amidst the acclamations of a numerous concourse of genteel spectators; but his assistants, not attending properly to his instructions, detained him by a rope; at length he spiritedly cut the string, and pulling off his blue coat, put on his city regiments, and proceeded in a westerly direction, rather inclining to the northward. The balloon formed a most beautiful spectacle, but being unfortunately overcharged with vapour, descended about twenty minutes after it arose, in the garden belonging to the Adam and Eve tea-house, in Tottenham-Court-road. He was immediately surrounded by great numbers of the populace, and though he proposed re-ascending, they were not to be disengaged from bearing him in triumph on their shoulders. The balloon being torn in the fall, the body of vapour which arose from it, formed a black cloud, which was not dispersed for some time. Mr. Lunardi expressed great concern that he had disappointed the public in not being able to make a considerable tour. It is said, that he will make another attempt, as soon as his Balloon, which is lodged in the Pantheon, can be repaired.

## 1785 EROSTATION. 13 May

Signor Lunardi, having completed his process, according to his promise to the public, yesterday, at a little past one, ascended from the Artillery Ground. From the heat of the atmosphere, the air was not sufficiently buoyant to suspend the balloon, so as to admit of its carrying the lady who was to have attended the adventurous Italian. Mrs. Sage, the first female candidate, was found to have more gravity than belonged to a wife name. Other ladies instantly began to dispute the palm for volatility, but none were deemed sufficient light. Mr. Biggin was also among the candidates, but could not be accommodated.

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**May 14, 1785**  
Yesterday Mr. Lunardi ascended with his balloon from the artillery ground, amidst a prodigious concourse of spectators, many of whom were of the genteel sort. He went up alone; and the balloon taking a direction nearly over Gray's Inn, was seen from every part of the metropolis. In less than half an hour, the shew was over; for the balloon burst, and down came Lunardi, balloon and all, near the Adam and Eve gardens in Tottenham-court-road. The balloon was afterwards taken to the Pantheon. The mob were a good deal exasperated, and Lunardi, not without some hazard, escaped from their fury.

**May 14, 1785**  
Mr. LUNARDI presents his most respectful duty to the public, humbly solicits a suspension of any unfavorable idea from any disappointment they might have met with yesterday, in the ascention of his balloon, till he has an opportunity of laying before them the true and unavoidable cause.

Lunardi proposes re-ascending from Bedford-square, in a few days.—The little contemptible Gallic Adventurer, triumphs in the fall of his rival.—Lunardi, however, is too well in the favor of the people of England to suffer from his spleen.

16 May 1785

Lunardi's receipts amounted to 547l. on the day of ascension, besides a considerable sum the day before; his expences in all were reckoned at about 500l.

May 17, 1785

**M**YR. LUNARDI's whole time, since last Friday, has been employed in collecting together all the MATERIALS necessary to make another Experiment, which, he makes no doubt, will take place in the course of a few days, as a compensation for the inadvertent disappointment which happened on Friday last.

THIS DAY, TO-MORROW, and SATURDAY ONLY, the BALLON will be exhibited at the PANTHEON, in the exact manner in which Mr. Lunardi ASCENDED from the ARTILLERY GROUND.

ADMITTANCE ONE SHILLING.

The Doors will be open from Nine in the Morning till Dark.

May 19 - 1785

The spirited Lunardi, although he did not tower so near to Heaven, as on his former excursion, yet as he descended in the garden of Adam and Eve, he may be said to have reached Paradise!

As there is no intention to commemorate the invention of balloons, by an annual festival, a correspondent begs to recommend Ascension-Day as most proper for that purpose.

May 17, 1785

Those who express their disapprobation at Lunardi's making so quick a descent from his aerial excursion, should recollect that although he did not go quite to Paradise, he reached Adam and Eve's Garden, where he alighted upon a tree, we cannot say whether the tree of knowledge or not, but we hope it was, as he was seen to fall foul of it.

May 17, 1785

## 1785 JUNE 23—25. THE LO

LUNARDI's proposed Ascension into the Atmosphere, accompanied by an English Gentleman and Lady.

**M**R. LUNARDI most respectfully informs

his Friends, and the Public in general, that he proposes to ascend into the atmosphere on Wednesday next, precisely at One o'clock, accompanied by an English Lady and Gentleman, in the identical Balloon, with the ornamental gallery, and numerous instruments for observation, which were exhibited formerly at the Pantheon, and which mysteriously failed in their intended experiments at the Artillery Ground on Friday the 13th of May last. However mortifying that failure has been to his ambition, however severely injurious it may have proved to his reputation, he hopes now to convince the world, that his principles and his science will justify every profession that he has made. Unwilling to confide again his fame and fortune to another, he has contrived a new apparatus for filling his Balloon, and resolves to direct and superintend the process himself; he hopes that the mode, as it is entirely new, will be equally expeditious and effectual. The intended experiment has been inevitably protracted much beyond his wishes, owing to the impossibility of procuring a sufficient quantity of iron filings, as well as to the difficulty of procuring a commodious place to ascend from. The first reason may appear paradoxical; but the fact is well known, that no sooner was the intended gratuitous experiment announced, than emulators were employed by his competitors to engrave the whole materials in the metropolis, that were necessary for his purpose. This obstacle he has now obviated, by collecting from different parts of the country sufficient iron filings for his purpose, and Mr. Arnold has politely accommodated him with his inclosed and commodious ground in St. George's-fields to ascend from, on terms which he prefaces will be thought liberal, viz. the distribution of a certain number of Tickets in such manner as Mr. Arnold shall think proper; but the inclosed ground, as well as the circuitous, to be devoted principally to the Public in general GRATIS, Mr. Lunardi hereby disclaiming any pecuniary advantage whatever to himself from the proposed exhibition.

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Mr. Lunardi, aware of the impossibility of admitting the multitude who might be expected to apply for admission within the inclosed ground on the day of ascension, although it is the wish of his heart, to gratify every individual inclined to honor his experiments with their presence, he concluded that the best means of preventing any offence whatever, would be to derive publicly such persons as wished to be accommodated with free Tickets, to find him their directions, in order that the Tickets might be sent to them.

Having fulfilled these propositions, he flatters himself that no person will take offence, should the inclosed ground not be capacious enough to admit more than the number of tickets already issued, especially as he has contrived a stage on which his Balloon and apparatus will be raised above the palings, sufficiently lofty for every person in the fields to be gratified with a view.

With these endeavours to give satisfaction, and with the warmest sentiments of gratitude, Mr. Lunardi presumes once more to appear before the public: Confident in his integrity, and fully persuaded that his experiment will be successful, he hopes for the patronage and protection of the public.

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*Extract of a Letter from Liverpool, July 21.*

" Yesterday morning being the time appointed for Mr. Lunardi's ascent into the atmosphere, a prodigious concourse of people assembled near the fort, but rain, accompanied with thunder, coming on, their hopes had nearly vanished; towards one o'clock the weather cleared up, but the wind was uncommonly variable, shifting instantaneously to almost all points of the compass; however, Mr. Lunardi determined to run all hazard rather than disappoint the public; he therefore gave notice, that he would positively ascend at five o'clock in the afternoon.

" Soon after two a gun was fired, as a signal that he had begun to fill the balloon. There was very little company in the fort to observe the process. Soon after five the populace began to shew signs of impatience, upon which another gun was fired, as a signal that the balloon was inflated. Mr. Lunardi then got into the gallery, changed his dress, and took in ballast, &c. but upon trying the rising power, the weight was found too great; he immediately threw out his two boxes of ballast, but still the balloon was deficient in levity; he therefore flung down his pistols, his speaking trumpet, and even his cork-jacket. About six the last gun was fired, and he rose nearly in a perpendicular direction. For a moment silence took place, but this immediately gave way to loud and repeated bursts of applause. Again all was still, and he saluted the spectators, waving his hat; the balloon then appeared to take a N.W. direction, but soon changed to the opposite; but this was presently changed by a second alteration in its course, which was nearly N. He descended about 20 minutes after seven o'clock in a field of wheat at Simmonwood, about 12 miles distance, and arrived at Liverpool late in the evening. To keep himself suspended in the air, he had thrown away his hat, coat, and waistcoat, which circumstance occasioned him to suffer a good deal from the cold."

The reputation of Mr. LUNARDI, which was very high with the public in general, was, for a little while, eclipsed by the envy and malice of his enemies, who endeavoured to tarnish his glory, and to transfer his merit to a French rival, French arts had some effect to defeat the purposes of M. Lunardi, and to injure his character; but he soon prevailed, and his rival having taken French leave, left him, once more, master of the field. The late ascension of his balloon fully re-established his reputation, and this young aerial traveller seems, as much as ever, a favourite with the public, as appears by the expressions of all ranks of people, and by the number that still resort to the Pantheon to see his balloon. To a generous public he has been grateful, by contributing largely to the relief of the distressed, which is the generous purpose of his journey to Liverpool. Such repeated acts of humanity denote a liberal mind, worthy of the distinguished patronage which Mr. Lunardi has received.

**PANTHEON.**  
Mr. LUNARDI'S GRAND BALLOON, and NEW EXHIBITION of the MECHANICAL BIRD.  
BY the special Desire of numerous Friends, Ladies in particular, who wish for a Grand Promenade, the Pantheon will open This Day, for the first time of exhibiting this most ingenious and curious part of mechanism from nine o'clock till dark, and during which interval the Promenade will be continued.  
That Mr. Lunardi has ever been anxious and assiduous to please a public to whom he is greatly bound in gratitude, will be fully testified by the exp. of this truly capital mechanical work, which being suspended to the balloon, instead of the gallery, and keeping in continual motion, its wings move with the grandeur of the balloon, and the beauty of the Pantheon, attract the attention of every person, and of the curious in particular, while the spectacle will render the Promenade, especially to the Ladies, one of the most amusing and splendid yet seen in this kingdom.  
Admittance only One Shilling. 1785.  
This and every Day, the Pantheon will be open as usual.

*Extract of a letter from Liverpool, dated Aug. 3.*  
1785. Yesterday, Tuesday, being the day announced for Mr. Lunardi's second flight from this place, the town was filled with strangers; so numerous was the company that the different inns and taverns could not accommodate them with refreshments or lodging. Many parties, &c. to the amount of five hundred, in the evening, went to Cheshire, where ever house of entertainment was crowded.—The incredulity which prevailed when Mr. L. ascended last from hence, being annihilated, he was as much followed as before deserted; every one seemed satisfied with his past conduct, and proved their warm wishes for his welfare, by a generous subscription, and eager attention.—The wind was exceeding boisterous, and blew directly contrary to the aeronaut's anticipation, which obliged him to postpone his ascension to this day. I sincerely believe that Liverpool never assembled so many persons together on any occasion, at one time.—The wind was still at the same point, opposing the grand motive of his ascension. However, his determination was to persevere, but the company present, and his friends, advised him to defer it till to-morrow, or Monday, when he will positively ascend, and after which you shall positively hear from me."

*Extract of a letter from Liverpool, Aug. 11.*

" After many cruel disappointments, Mr. Lunardi performed his second ascension on Tuesday last; a high wind had prevented him on Monday, and some ill-natured wretches, who take a delight in insulting the unfortunate, endeavoured to propagate several unjust and scandalous reports. Anxious to vindicate himself, he determined, at all events, to ascend on Tuesday; and hurrying to the fort, resolved to wait there till he could fulfil his engagements with the public. About twelve o'clock on Tuesday he began to fill the balloon, and luckily, the wind soon began to abate. The process was carried on with the greatest regularity, and about three o'clock, he gave the signal that the balloon was full, and began to prepare for his voyage. Unfortunately he was persuaded to ascend from the centre of the fort, and stepping into the boat desired his two active friends, Mr. W. Harle, and Mr. Nissen, to carry him from the N. W. side to the middle of the area; but no sooner was the balloon unsheltered, than the people, who saw it roll about, imagining the danger to be great crowded furiously about him, to prevent his ascension; and, deaf to all his entreaties, broke the ropes, burst two holes in the balloon, and tore the netting almost to pieces! at this moment he threw himself down in the boat, and casting up his eyes to Heaven, exclaimed, O! Dio! then drawing his hanger, threatened to cut every hand that laid hold on the hoop. This had the desired effect; he was immediately liberated, and ascended in an instant with the rapidity of a sky rocket! a thousand screams of terror were sent forth at once, when the spectators beheld him in the air, with the air, with the torn netting and ropes, fluttering in the wind, and the boat so frightfully inclined as to cause the most dreadful apprehensions for his being thrown out; but he was soon fastening the strings, and soon after saluted, by waving his flag. He continued in sight only four minutes, and then was lost behind a thick cloud, from which he soon emerged, and was seen at intervals, for near half an hour. His height appeared to be very great, and direction almost south.

" There was a letter received from him yesterday afternoon, informing his friends that he descended near Tarporley, in Cheshire, after being dragged a considerable way." 1785

Lunardi is expected this week in Scotland, with his Balloon;—but, for all his merit in Aerostation, he has not yet obtained permission to ascend from that place, as the Provost is inclined to think that it will never be rendered of any utility, and only tend to promote idleness.—However, we hear, that he is strongly supported by Lord Galloway, and Lord Dunmore; and that his intention is, to ascend from Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Sept. 9. 1785

*Extract of a Letter from Edinburgh, Oct. 5. 1785*

" This being the day appointed for Mr. Lunardi's ascending in his balloon from the garden of Heriot's Hospital, the process of filling the balloon began about twelve o'clock, and was continued without any accident or interruption till about half past two, when it appeared completely inflated. The car was then affixed, and Mr. Lunardi having taken his seat, and his apparatus, ballast, &c. properly adjusted, the balloon was carried into the middle of the garden, and precisely at ten minutes before three o'clock Mr. Lunardi gave the signal, and he ascended in a N. N. E. direction, in the most grand and magnificent manner. Immediately on its rising, Mr. Lunardi, who stood up in the car, took off his hat, and bowed to the spectators, who returned it with repeated acclamations. At a greater elevation he waved his flag, and went over the city at a great height, directly across the Frith. When about half way over he descended pretty low, and then discharging some of his ballast, he rose rapidly and disappeared. It is supposed, by the course of the balloon, that he will alight about Cupar, in Fife, or somewhere near it."

Lunardi has been successful in Edinburgh beyond his most sanguine expectation. The subscription some time ago amounted to three hundred guineas, and he exhibits his balloon in the Parliament House, which is likewise profitable. For his success he is indebted to the indefatigable exertions of a brother Philosopher belonging to the ancient society of Cadies, well known by the name of Lord North, and this amply consoles him for the contempt of the literati, who have unaccountably turned their backs on this most sublime of philosophers.

Oct. 6. 1785

*Extract of a Letter from Menie of Ceres, Oct. 6.*

" Yesterday afternoon, the sky being clear, and a gentle breeze blowing from S. S. W. whilst I was overlooking the stacking of some corns in my barn yard, a boy who was standing by me, took notice of what he thought to be a hawk soaring at a very great and uncommon height. After looking attentively at the object, which appeared due south from me, and evidently higher than some thin clouds which were floating near it, I was convinced it was no bird. At this time, which was about five minutes before four o'clock, it had the appearance of a globe or ball of six inches diameter, and seemed suspended without motion: This was owing to its surprising and almost incredible degree of elevation, and to its moving directly towards me. As I knew Mr. Lunardi was to ascend at Edinburgh on Wednesday the 5th instant, and as the wind blew directly from Edinburgh, towards Ceres, I was persuaded that the object which presented itself to view was Mr. Lunardi's balloon. I then called upon my neighbours and acquaintance to come and see the aerial traveler; they thought me in joke, but, upon my assuring them that I was serious, they came out and saw the object which I pointed out to them, but could not bring themselves to believe it was Mr. Lunardi. Whilst we gazed, the intervening clouds two or three times intercepted our view; and, as the balloon came out from behind the clouds, the rays of the sun, reflected from the west side of it, gave it the appearance of the moon seen by day light, five or six days after the change.

About ten minutes after four the balloon began to descend, and got below the clouds; it now assumed an oblong figure, and appeared much larger: The basket and flag also became visible. Multitudes now got sight of it, and the whole country was alarmed: As it now drew near the earth, and sailed along with a kind of awful grandeur and majesty, the sight gave much pleasure to such as knew what it was, but terribly alarmed such as were unacquainted with the nature of this celestial vehicle, if I may use the phrase.

About 20 minutes after four Mr. Lunardi cast out his anchor, and the balloon rested near the coal town of Callinge, on the estate of the Hon. John Hope, a mile east from Ceres, and between two and three miles south-east of Cupar in Fife. Mr. Robert Christie, Feuer of Callinge, happened to be near the place, and he immediately came up to him, enquired after his safety, and assisted him in getting out of the basket, and in securing the balloon. A vast multitude from every quarter soon assembled, and gazed with astonishment at the daring adventurer."

*Extract of a letter from Chester, August 23. 1785*

" Mr. Lunardi having appointed Monday last for his aerial excursion from this city, a prodigious concourse of people collected together. About two o'clock he began to fill the balloon; the process commenced pretty well, but as the iron which he had was very rusty, and could not generate inflammable air quickly, he was supplied with 50lb. of clean iron, which he prepared to put into the casks, but from opening one of them, the gas rose so fast, that the men all ran away, and the cooper was so terrified that he dropped the piece of wood, which closed the port-hole, into the tub; Mr. Lunardi seeing the materials escaping thrust himself upon the cask, and to fetch back the port square, thrust his arm into the boiling mixture; but his efforts were vain, and a small cask having the head exploded, obliged him to stop the process of half the apparatus, and work with the other half, which he exerted himself to do; but his hands being terribly burnt by the vitriol, and growing worse, and extremely painful, he sent for his servant, who ascended, and behaved extremely well.

" The balloon rose majestically, and went in a horizontal direction about seven miles, when we saw it descend perpendicularly, there being very little wind. The servant came to Chester about nine o'clock with the balloon, and after having secured it in the Shire-Hall, was carried through the town on the shoulders of the populace."

**AEROSTATION.**  
The great Attention now given by the Public to the several Adventurers who float in Air to distant Places by the aid of an A.R. BALLOON, will it is presumed, draw the like Attention to the following Performance. The various observations on the Manners, Customs, and Characters of Persons, in different Parts of the World, made by the Aerial Travellers here exhibited, may indeed be considered as anticipating the utility and pleasureable convenience of this Machine; but at the same time, it is hoped, stimulate the genious to bring to the highest possible degree of perfection that infant-Mood of Travelling.

This Day is published, June 1785

In Two Volumes, Twelves, price 6s. sewed,  
Embellished with a Quarto Plate of Lunardi's Grand Air Balloon.

**THE AEROSTATIC SPY; or, EXCURSIONS with an AIR BALLOON:** Exhibiting a View of various Countries, in different Parts of the World; and a Variety of Characters in Real Life.

By an AERIAL TRAVELLER.  
For H. D. Symonds, Stationers-court, Ludgate-street.

**ROYAL GEORGE ROTUNDA.**  
Near Hughes's Riding-School, St. George's-fields  
**M**R. LUNARDI's truly wonderful Apparatus, with which he floated his Balloon in so elegant a manner on Wednesday, having greatly excited public curiosity, Mr. Arnold takes the liberty of informing his friends, and the public in general, that it will be exhibited, with the present state of the Rotunda, every day this Week. 1 July 1785  
Admittance Sixpence each person.

**1785. PANTHEON, 4 July.**  
**M**R. LUNARDI, animated with that respect and gratitude with which the condescension and liberality of the British Nation have inspired him, takes this, as he shall every other opportunity, to express his feelings, and convey his acknowledgments, for the flattering indulgence and honor he has experienced. He is likewise happy to find, that a liberal public has pronounced the fullest satisfaction of his recent conduct, and that a conviction of his veracity and integrity, has restored him to the confidence of a generous nation, which those who envied him that honor endeavoured to annihilate.

As Mr. Lunardi must leave London in a week, to fulfil his promise of ascending at Liverpool, Lancaster, &c. he wishes to show his gratitude for the numerous obligations received; therefore, for the satisfaction of every individual, he has entered, and prevailed upon, the Lady who attended with his Balloon last week from St. George's Fields, to gratify the public curiosity, by appearing at the Pantheon to-morrow and Wednesday only, between Twelve and Three o'clock, when she will be happy in answering every question asked relative to her aerial excursion; and likewise will be exhibited the Identical Balloon and Appendages.—An excellent Band of Music will attend.—Admittance One Shilling.

N.B. The doors will be open from Nine in the morning till dark.

\* \* \* On Thursday night the Pantheon will be illuminated in the same manner as it was for the Masquerade, when there will be a cold supper, and all sorts of wines, for the accommodation of private parties, exclusive of the admission money. After which there will be a Ball. Admittance Five Shillings. Lemonade, Orgeat, Capillaire, Tea, Cakes, and all sorts of refreshment included.

**5 July, PANTHEON, 1785.**  
**I**T having been particularly desired by numerous Friends, of the greatest respectability, that Mr. LUNARDI would have a Farewell Ball before he leaves London, for Liverpool, &c. He, ever ready to oblige his friends, and a liberal public, intends to gratify them on Thursday Evening next, the 7th inst. with an Entertainment, which he flatters himself will convince him, by a numerous and respectable appearance, that he continues in full possession of the confidence of a liberal nation.

The Pantheon will be illuminated in the same style and elegance as a Masquerade. Besides the Band of Music for the Orchestra, there will be one provided to play at intervals, concealed in the Gallery of the Balloon, at the very height of the Dome.

The Doors of the Pantheon to be opened at Nine o'Clock. —Admittance Five Shillings; including every kind of refreshment, which, Mr. Lunardi is confident, a liberal public will think very reasonable.

And for the accommodation of his generous friends, either individually, or in parties, who wish to sup at the Pantheon, a cold Collation, with the very best Wines, &c. will be provided and disposed in the most convenient manner round the gallery and private rooms, so that any person may retire to supper without losing the conviviality of the entertainment, which must be the highest gratification from the gallery.

The Supper which depends on the pleasure of the public, will be paid for extra; and as it is given to promote the pleasure of friends, and not from any mercenary motive, Mr. Lunardi trusts the public will think it very reasonable, especially as the admission and the supper together will not cost pasties above half the masquerade admission, with the same pleasure, the marks excepted.

\* \* \* The Rooms for Tea and Refreshments will be open at Nine, and finally shut at Eleven o'clock, to prepare for Supper, which, as well as the Refreshments, will be under the entire direction of Mr. Willis, of the Thatched-House Tavern, St. James's-street, so justly esteemed for his taste and liberality.

The Pantheon will be open To-day and To-morrow in the day time, for the exhibition of the Balloon, and gratification of the public, for whose pleasure the Aerial Travellers will attend.

Admittance only ONE SHILLING.

**1785 PANTHEON, 7 July.**  
**T**O-MORROW EVENING, the Pantheon will be illuminate in the same elegant style as at a Masquerade, when, at the request of several of the Nobility, Mr. Lunardi will have a BALL. —Admittance Five Shillings, including every kind of refreshment.

The doors of the Pantheon will be opened at nine o'clock. But that every individual may have an opportunity of seeing the Pantheon illuminated, company will be admitted at One Shilling each, To-morrow Evening, from seven o'clock till eight, when the bell will be rung, and no person whatever permitted to stay after.

N.B. The Rooms for Tea and Refreshments will be open at nine, and finally shut at eleven, to prepare a cold Collation round the gallery and private rooms, for the accommodation of parties and individuals: But the supper must be paid for extra, on moderate terms.

††† The Pantheon will be open This Day for the Exhibition of the Balloon, and gratification of the public, for whose pleasure, the Fair Aerial Traveller will appear, from one till four o'clock. Music will be kept constantly. To-morrow, at three o'clock, several Ladies will ascend with the Balloon as high as the dome will permit, when the exhibition for the day will close.—Admittance only One Shilling.

#### THE MALE AND FEMALE AERONAUTS

Two bold Aeronauts, on a time,  
Took a trip to the regions above,  
Where the Gentleman thought it no crime  
If he to the Lady made love.  
“ Oh! let me embrace you,” he cry’d,  
(His heart quite elated with mirth,)  
The dame very archly replied,  
That “ She had no objection—on earth.”

It is supposed that Mr. Biggin, when he lately ascended with Mrs. Sage, had great pleasure in contemplating the milky-way and Berenice's locks!

July 1785

It was the practice of yore for wise men to consult the stars, and afterwards answer the enquiries of less enlightened mortals:—The Sage is in the fullest sense a *Cunning Woman!*



*Love in a Balloon.*

When will the rage for ballooning cease?  
How much longer is Lunardi and his female companion, to treat the people in the North with *Geese and SAGE!*

This Day was published, 1785

**T**HE three following PORTRAITS, in small oval size, and executed in the chalk style, price half a crown each, fine impressions, and may be had together or separate.

1. Mrs. Sage, the first English Female Aerial Traveller, beautifully engraved by Burke, after an original miniature picture by Shelly.

2. Vincent Lunardi, Esq; the first Aerial Traveller to the English atmosphere, beautifully engraved by Bartolozzi, after an original drawing by Coway.

3. George Anne Bellamy, late of Covent-garden Theatre, engraved by Bartolozzi in his best manner, after an original picture in the possession of Sir George Metham, modernised by Ramberg.

Printed for J. Bell, at the British Library in the Strand.

Of whom may be had,

A few remaining copies of the third edition of An Apology for the Life of George Anne Bellamy, written by Heribst, in six volumes, price 18s. sewed; or, a new edition of the fifth volume separate, to complete sets.

Also the second edition of Mrs. Sage's Letter to a Female Friend, describing the general appearance and effects of her expedition with Mr. Lunardi's balloon, which ascended from St. George's-fields, on Wednesday the 29th of June 1785, accompanied by George Biggin, Esq; price 1s.

This Day is published, price 7s. 6d. 1785

**A** PRINT of Mr. LUNARDI's Balloon, as exhibited in the Pantheon after his Aerial Voyage in 1784. With the inside view of the said building. In which are introduced seventy-nine figures, drawn by F. G. Byron, and engraved by V. Green, Engraver to His Majesty; and to be had of John Acre, Picture-frame-maker, No. 44, Warwick-street, Soho.

**JULY. PANTHEON, 1785.**

**M**R. LUNARDI, feeling the weight of his obligations to a generous nation, takes the earliest opportunity to make his acknowledgments for the honor done to his Entertainment, and for the obliging manner in which a polite company expressed their satisfaction, and their conviction, that Mr. Lunardi has performed his engagements with the public.

Honored with so great a share of public approbation, Mr. Lunardi, with sentiments of high respect, takes leave of the public, for an excursion to Liverpool, &c. where, he is confident, the generous wishes of a liberal nation will follow him, and crown his endeavours with the honor of public approbation, which is his chief motive, and greatest ambition.

In his absence, an intelligent person will explain the nature of the balloon, which will continue to be exhibited, in the state in which it ascended with Mrs. Sage and Mr. Biggin; Mr. Lunardi having another in the country for his purpose.

Mrs. Sage, whose sentiments and elegant manners are justly admired, will, in friendship to Mr. Lunardi, be at the Pantheon on Monday from One to Four o'clock, to gratify the public's curiosity in her easy and pleasing manner. And as many respectable characters, ladies in particular, have expressed a desire to have a Promenade while the Parliament continues to sit, and keep them in Town, the Pantheon will be opened on Monday for that purpose, from Ten in the Morning till Eight in the Evening; it will therefore be both a morning and evening Promenade, for the convenience of the Public in general.

From the politeness of the Company on Thursday last, it is presumed the Promenade at the Pantheon will be graced with amiable and respectable characters.

A Band of Music will be constantly kept, which, with the magnificence of the building, and elegance of the Balloon, will be a passe-tems worthy of an accomplished nation.

On Monday, between Two and Three o'clock, a party of Ladies will ascend in the Balloon as high as the dome will admit.

Admittance Only ONE SHILLING.

**PANTHEON.**  
**T**HE PROMENADE will be continued every day, at the desire of many respectable persons, while the Parliament sits, and the exhibition of Mr. Lunardi's beautiful Balloon, in the exact condition in which it ascended with the agreeable Mrs. Sage, whose intrepidity has greatly excited the public curiosity, and her affability has equally received the commendation of the most respectable persons who have been at the Pantheon to converse with her.

The Pantheon will be open from Ten o'clock till dark, and young ladies may ascend in the Balloon, from Two to Four, as high as the dome will admit.

Admittance only One Shilling. 13 July 1785

*Extract of a Letter from Liverpool, July 20, 1785.*

Mr. Lunardi ascended in his balloon, from the new fort in this town, at seventeen minutes past six o'clock this evening; he remained in sight 35 minutes, then was lost in a cloud; appeared again in about three minutes, going very easy towards Ormskirk. He seemed very collected, and the sight was beautiful beyond description.

**MR. LUNARDI'S GRAND BALLOON and BIRD.**  
**B**Y desire of numerous Friends, Ladies in particular, who wish for a Promenade once a week, the Pantheon will be open on Monday, from nine o'clock till dark, for a morning and evening Promenade. At the same time, and every day, will be exhibited, Mr. Lunardi's curious Bird fixed to the Balloon instead of the Gallery, which, with the motion of the wings, has a noble effect. This very curious exhibition, and the beauty of the Pantheon, will render the Promenade worthy of the particular attention of the public, especially Ladies.

Admittance only One Shilling. July 20, 1785

This Day the Pantheon will be open as usual.

Lunardi's friends level a terrible blow at the female character of the two Miss Simons who ascended with Blanchard, in calling Mrs. Sage the first female who ventured into the air:—Upon what foundation do they deny the right of these young ladies to be enrolled among the feminine tribe?—Or do they suppose that the public has quite forgot all former ascensions but those of the famous Lunardi? July 20, 1785

Lunardi took a cat with him, as a companion to the clouds; some late balloonists have improved upon the hint, and taken a rabbit, as a better thing. July 1785



Fowls of a Feather Flock together



Extract of a letter from Edinburgh, Oct. 7.

"This being the day appointed for Lunardi's descending in his Balloon from the garden of Heriot's Hospital, provided the wind blew from certain quarters, early in the morning, many an anxious and enquiring eye was turned towards the weather-cock, and as the wind, tho' nearly so, was not exactly from the points specified, it was a very great doubt whether he would or would not go up. This suspense, however, was soon removed by the firing of a gun, and the display of the castle flag, signals which announced Mr. Lunardi's intention of fulfilling his engagement. The process of filling the balloon began about twelve o'clock, and was continued without any accident or interruption till half past two, when it appeared completely inflated. The car was then affixed, and Mr. Lunardi having taken his seat, and his apparatus, ballast, &c. properly adjusted, the balloon was carried into the middle of the garden, and, precisely at ten minutes before three o'clock, Mr. Lunardi, gave the signal, and he ascended in a N. N. E. direction. Immediately on its rising, Mr. Lunardi, who stood up in the car, took off his hat, and bowed to the spectators, who returned it with repeated acclamations. At a greater elevation he waved his flag, and went over the city at a great height, directly across the Frith. When about half over he descended pretty low, and then discharging some of his ballast, he rose rapidly, and then disappeared.

"The military attended at the gardens, and there was not the smallest accident happened. So anxious were all ranks to be present, that great part of the shops were shut.

"Beats were sounded in different parts of the Frith, in order to assist in case the balloon should fall in."

"Mr. Lunardi reached the coast of Fife a little to the Westward of Wemyss-house, and the balloon descended gently at Greenfide, between Durie and Ceres, about two miles from Cupar, 25 minutes after 4 o'clock, having crossed about 18 miles by sea, and ten miles by land, in all about 28 miles by sea and land, in the space of an hour and 35 minutes. Mr. Lunardi was received by a number of gentlemen at Cupar, who happened to be at the Michaelmas Head Court, and by the inhabitants of the town, of which he was made a Burgess yesterday, and entertained by the magistrates at dinner. He says, that at his highest altitude, the mercury in the thermometer stood at 18 inches 5-tenths."

Extract of a Letter from Cupar, Oct. 7. 1785

"I had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Lunardi descend, and was so lucky as to be the first person in Cupar who espied him. When I saw him first, he did not appear larger than a small bird. He descended gradually in a perpendicular direction; the time he took in descending was about ten minutes. I instantly mounted my horse, and riding with the utmost expedition to the place where I judged he would alight, I found him in good health and spirits, though very cold. He alighted at a place called Callinich, within three measured miles S. E. of Cupar. After some hearty congratulations on his safe landing, I told him I had received orders from the Provost and Magistrates of Cupar, to request the honour of his company to supper, which he politely accepted of. A considerable number of ladies and gentlemen met us by the way, and escorted Mr. Lunardi to my house, where he supped. Next day a large company were invited to dine with the Provost, &c. when Mr. Lunardi was complimented with the freedom of the town. Every mark of respect has been shewn him by all ranks here, and of which he seems very sensible. Last night he went out to Lord Leven's; where he remained all night. Lord Balgonie came to Cupar, on purpose to invite him. He just now sets out for St. Andrews. The Hon. John Hope, on whose ground Mr. L. alighted, has wrote to his factor here to take the necessary measures for having a monument erected. I caused Mr. L. to sketch out the track of his balloon upon one of Ainslie's maps of Fife: from the scale it appears, he had travelled fifty miles in an hour and a half. He alighted 25 minutes past four o'clock."

Edinburgh, Oct. 12. This day the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council appointed

James Torry, Esq; to be Admiral of Leith. Francis Blair, Esq; Baron Bailie of Canongate. Messrs. William Firnie and James Murray, Resident Bailies.

Mr. James Clark, Treasurer.

Francis Shand, Esq; Baron Bailie of Portsburgh.

Mr. John Gloag, Capt. of Orange Colours.

Mr. Lunardi was this day presented with the freedom of this city—an honour certainly due to the first man who flew over it.

Last night Mr. Lunardi was admitted a member of the ancient and honourable fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, in the Lodge of Edinburgh St. Andrew, the brethren having met together solely for that purpose. He afterwards attended the Master and Officers of that Lodge on a visit to the Ancient Lodge of St. Mary's Chapel, and seemed highly pleased with his new connection, and the particular respect paid him by all present.

Extract of a letter from Edinburgh, Oct. 12.

"Having in my last sent you an account of Lunardi's ascent from Heriot's Garden's, and knowing your attachment to aeration, I here inclose you further particulars of that aerial excursion:—After passing over Leith, and going half way cross the Frith, by Inchkeith, Mr. Lunardi, observing two boats with oars, which had gone out to observe his motions, and to be ready to assist in case of accident, lowered his balloon about a mile, and hailed them. The anxiety of the spectators on land, at this time, was immense. Every person was deprecating the fate of this bold aeronaut, who, they were afraid, would even moment be precipitated into the water. They were, however, soon happily relieved by Mr. Lunardi, who having thrown out some of his ballast, suddenly ascended to an amazing height. The balloon then took a direction N. E. by E. and, about 40 minutes past three o'clock, it disappeared to the eyes of the spectators on the Castle and Calton-hills. It afterwards proceeded eastward to Gulland Point, where meeting with a favourable current of wind from the east, Mr. Lunardi was fortunately carried across the Frith to the coast of Fife, a little to the eastward of Wemyss-house, and the balloon descended gently at Callinich, between Durie and Ceres, about three miles south-east of Cupar, at twenty-five minutes past four o'clock, having, it is supposed, from the obliquity of the direction, crossed about 36 miles of sea, and 10 miles of land, in all about 46 miles, in the space of an hour and 35 minutes.

Immediately upon Mr. Lunardi's landing, the people in the neighbourhood, who were all on the look-out, ran to congratulate him. Among the rest, was the Rev. Mr. Arnot of Ceres, who conducted him to the manse, and entertained him with that hospitality for which the clergy of the church of Scotland are so eminently distinguished. Before he reached Cupar, surprising crowds poured in from all quarters; and he was ushered in with huzzas, ringing of bells, &c. &c. The Michaelmas Head Court being held there that day, he was received by the gentlemen of the county in the politest manner, and had the honour of supping with him. Thursday he was entertained by the Magistrates at dinner, and was made a burgess of the town. He is not yet arrived here.

The greatest height to which Mr. Lunardi ascended, according to his own opinion, was 1,000 feet. The barometer then stood at 19 deg. 5-tenths; the thermometer at 29. For about half an hour, he says, he met with a floating snow; though at that time the weather was remarkable calm, mild, and serene.

The Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh, Earl of Kinnoul, Earl and Countess of Roseberry, Mr. Dundas, treasurer of the navy, and many other persons of distinction, were in the garden, and others on the Castle-hill, who all appeared highly pleased with this exhibition. It is estimated, that above eighty thousand spectators assembled, in and about Edinburgh, on this occasion, which put a stop to almost all business for a great part of the day; and considering that, at this season of the year, so many families are out of town, it is surprising so many people of fashion were present. A party of the 52d regiment, and about 40 of the city guards, attended at Heriot's Garden, to keep off the mob.

Mr. Lunardi was dressed in scarlet with blue facings. He was perfectly cool and collected, and seemed to be much more at ease than many more of the spectators. He is the only aeronaut who has crossed the sea, except Mr. Blanchard; and he was in the most imminent danger of being carried out to the German ocean, in case the wind had changed a point or two to the west; nor had he the smallest reason to expect any assistance, had he fallen into the sea, as night was fast advancing.

It is very happy for Mr. Lunardi, he lives in an enlightened age. Had any one attempted such an aerial excursion a century ago, he would have been considered as a wizard, and fallen a sacrifice, like many other innocent persons, to ignorance and superstition.

The elevation and boldness of the country round Edinburgh, together with the attempt to cross an arm of the sea, and where the Balloon could be traced the whole way to Fifeshire from the eminence, renders this one of the most beautiful and picturesque aerial expeditions, that is possible, perhaps, to exhibit in any part of the globe. The whole was conducted with the greatest regularity and decorum, without any accident, and fully gratified the most sanguine expectation of an admiring multitude of all ranks of spectators.

The Balloon is shaped like a pear, or tea vase, about 30 feet high, and 23 broad, made of silk of different colours, covered with a netting, by which the car was attached. The car was decorated with pink silk, fringed with gold lace.

Several noblemen and gentlemen, from a knowledge that the money received for tickets is insufficient to defray the expence he has been put to, and which was greatly increased by his purchasing a complete new apparatus, rather than delay the time he had at first named, have resolved to open a voluntary subscription for his behalf."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Lunardi, to a Gentleman in Edinburgh, dated Cupar, Oct. 6.

"I have the honor to acquaint you, that I have been presented with the freedom of this town, and genteelly entertained by the Provost and gentlemen of Cupar. Lord Balgonie called upon me this morning, and requested my company at Leven-house, where I was very politely received, and had the honor of meeting a number of people of distinction. I have also received congratulations of my safe landing from the principal gentlemen of St. Andrews, with polite invitations to go there; to which place I set out tomorrow. In short, I have every reason to be pleased with the attentions and civilities I have been honored with, since my arrival here."

December 22, 1785.

When Lunardi first ascended in Scotland, the following remarkable occurrence happened, which has not yet publicly transpired.—After traversing in his aerial machine the unbound hemisphere, the enterprising traveller was about descending at a country village on the north of the Frith of Forth. Seeing two persons, a man and his wife, occupying part of an adjacent field, he blew his trumpet as a signal for assistance. The peasant was struck with astonishment on hearing the awful sound, and his *cara sposa* was fixed to the ground in a similar perturbation. Not having ever seen a balloon, and observing it fall rapidly with uncommon grandeur from the clouds, their emotions of mind were on this occasion inexpressible; and they both, as it were by instinct, fell down on their faces, and continued in this grovelling position for a few moments. The man at last, encouraged by his religious faith, sprung up with agility, and incited his wife to follow the example, by admonishing her with great fervency of eloquence, "Let us gang hame," says he, "Janet, wi' all convenient speed, and pray for our salvation. This is the day of judgment! Didna ye hear the sound of the last trumpet?"

*Extract of a letter from Kelfo, Oct. 21. 1785.*  
"Mr. Lunardi ascended this day from the church-yard here about two o'clock. There being but little wind the balloon rose almost perpendicularly, and, in about ten minutes took a direction towards Berwick. The weather was rather cloudy, but the spectacle was highly pleasing, and gave great satisfaction to all present. The spectators could not be less than ten thousand. No accounts are yet received of Mr. Lunardi's alighting."

*Extract of a letter from Edinburgh, Oct. 22. 1785.*  
"Having sent you an account of Mr. Lunardi's ascent from Kelfo, I now remit you a letter from Mr. Lunardi himself upon the subject; it is as follows:

"I set off from Kelfo at five minutes after two o'clock, I rose gradually. I had with me a barometer, thermometer, and several other instruments for the experiments I intended to make; and besides the provisions, had 88 pounds of ballast.

"I kept myself just a mile from the surface of the earth. I went into a cloud with the balloon; but the flag being 150 feet from the gallery, it remained in sight of the spectators. I was two minutes in the cloud, when I lowered again, not to deprive the people of the sight of my balloon. I kept myself constantly in sight of the earth. I went an hour after my setting off, through another cloud; and above the first of them, the barometer fell to 26 5 inches. The earth was no more visible to me.

"I descended after four minutes, and kept myself very low, when I perceived the sea to be not more than six miles distant. I began to come down so low as to hear distinctly the voice of the people. I anchored on Doddington Muir, and called people to take hold of the ropes from the car; and after having shook hands with Mr. Trotter Anstrum, who was the first gentleman on horseback who reached me, I ordered the men to carry me to Berwick. They carried me near Bar Moor in Northumberland, but the wind coming freer, and the balloon dragging them after, I thought proper to descend in a soft field, where I emptied the balloon. Mr. Richard Thompson at Bar Moor ordered his servant to take care of the balloon and appendages, and gave me his house, where I had a good supper, and he shewed me every civility in his power.

"I touched the ground at twenty-one minutes after three o'clock, and finally descended, and emptied the balloon in the field at four o'clock.

"While I was carried by the balloon, a great concourse of people from every quarter were following me, and amongst them several respectable ladies and gentlemen, who all seemed desirous of giving me every assistance possible."

26. 1785

*Extract of a letter from Edinburgh, Nov. 6.*  
"Mr. Lunardi ascended in his balloon on Wednesday last from Glasgow, amidst a vast concourse of admiring spectators. He took possession of the air about two o'clock in the afternoon, the wind S. W. and advanced N. E. for about twenty-five miles. Having then changed his direction, he proceeded to the S. E. and attempted to anchor, but the wind blowing with great violence, the cable gave way, by which accident the anchor, weighing about 10lb. was left on the ground, and the balloon re-ascented with wonderful velocity to a considerable altitude. After floating for some time in the air, Mr. Lunardi at last descended in Selkirkshire, about twelve miles farther on the water of Ale, being two miles to the Eastward of Ale-moor, having performed an expedition of one hundred and twenty-five miles in the space of two hours. When Mr. Lunardi alighted, Mr. and Mrs. Chisholm, of Stirches, who happened to be returning home from a visit, kindly afforded him every assistance in their power. Mrs. Chisholm having observed great part of Mr. Lunardi's progress, and wishing for an opportunity to attempt an experiment in the unknown regions, boldly took possession of the car, and sailed triumphantly for about three miles, when it was found expedient to desist from a farther progress, the wind blowing with extreme fury. During Mrs. Chisholm's aerial voyage, Mr. Lunardi rode her horse across the mountains, and every thing was conducted with the greatest decorum.

"It is worthy of observation, that during Mr. Lunardi's expedition, a very remarkable circumstance occurred. The like has not happened to any other aeronaut. When at a considerable distance from the earth, he felt much inclined to sleep; and at last supposing himself safely moored in Bedfordshire, he yielded to the strong propensity, and slept for about twenty minutes on the bosom of the air.

"On Mr. Lunardi's return to Glasgow, he passed through Hawick, was sumptuously entertained by the magistrates, and honoured with the freedom of the town."

The soaring Lunardi has been made a burgess of the town of Cupar, in Scotland, in reward for his last trip to the clouds: such an honor would be more accordant from the town of Aire!

Oct. 1785

The ballooning rage seems nearly over, at least Messrs. Sadler, Lunardi, with the rest of their aerial compeers, have struck their inflated canes, and gone into winter quarters. Oct. 1785

Mr. Lunardi, on Wednesday last, ascended in his balloon from St. Andrew's Church-yard, Glasgow, about a quarter before two, and descended on a hill between fifty and sixty miles distant, about a quarter before four o'clock; he dined with the gentlemen of Hawick the next day, and was presented with the freedom of that town. Mr. Lunardi arrived at Edinburgh on Friday morning.

It is worthy of observation, that during Mr. Lunardi's expedition, a very remarkable circumstance occurred. The like has not happened to any other aeronaut. When at a considerable distance from the earth, he felt himself much inclined to sleep; and at last, supposing himself safely moored, in Bedfordshire, he yielded to his strong propensity, and slept for about twenty minutes on the bosom of the air. 1 Dec. 1785

*Extract of a letter from Mr. Lunardi to George Biggin, Esq. in London.*

"My dear George, Dec. 1785.

"Monday the 10th instant, as I acquainted you, was the day fixed for my ascent with two balloons, the common one, and another of ten feet diameter, intended to be 550 feet higher than the large one which carried me. A rope of that length was to be fixed to it, in order to ascertain the various currents of wind, an experiment very interesting to us aeronauts, tho' I had not the good fortune to try it.

"The morning was pretty favourable, tho' interruped with small rain; but as the day advanced, the weather became very thick and foggy, so that I was obliged to delay my ascent till the day after.

At seven o'clock, my servants acquainted me that it was a very fine morning, on which, I ordered them to carry every thing to Heriot's Garden, and wrote a card to the Governor of the Castle to favour me with the firing of a gun, and sending of the troops to support the civil power, &c. as had already been promised. Lord Elphinston was indeed surprized at receiving that card, as the wind was too much from the West; and therefore very obligingly sent me a message that he was ready to do every thing in his power to serve me, but that the undertaking was too dangerous. My resolution, however, was unalterable, and his Lordship at last did me the honour to acquiesce with my wishes, on which I went to the Garden to prepare for my ascent.

"During the process of filling the balloon, I secured several bladders and pieces of cork round the ear, and the general question was, whether I really intended to go up? The answer was, that it was impossible to prevent myself from dropping into the sea, but that I was confident that some boat would take me up.

"At ten minutes before one, the balloon being sufficiently inflated, I ordered it to be carried to the south of the area to give the more satisfaction to the spectators, who at this time were very numerous. I was dressed in the uniform of the Scots Royal Archers, as I told you I had the honour of being made a member.

"Five minutes before one, I rose majestically, not so quick as the former time, but yet with a considerable degree of velocity, with the wind S. W. After having saluted the spectators, I fastened two strings which were left loose, and began to unwind the rope of the little anchor I had with me; and in three minutes after leaving the ground, I perceived myself perpendicularly over the Forth.

"At ten o'clock exactly, the balloon turned thrice round upon its axis, and was completely full; the barometer at 21, the thermometer at 38, wind S. W. by W. and was going very slow, the scenery beneath me was most delightful, and I now drank a glass of wine, and eat some cake.

"At half an hour after one the balloon continued much in the same state, and the barometer had only fallen 1°. I was going horizontally towards the N. E. and saw a boat rowing towards Musselburgh: I threw down a piece of cake about half a pound weight; but do not know if it fell into the boat.

"Fifty minutes after one the wind was due W. and I therefore thought proper to attempt landing on the point of Archerfield, and let go my small anchor about 600 feet below my car, and began to descend; but as I found that I found that I was coming down with too great rapidity, and had no ballast, nor even the big anchor, I was obliged to stop my descent by shutting the valve, and throwing down a bottle full of water I had with me, when about 2000 feet from the ground; by which means I passed over the point of land, and came again upon the water. At this elevation the thermometer fell to 31.

"I fastened my uniform great coat, which I had taken with me to the upper hoop to which the basket was appended; as well as my hat, another little coat, and some other things, to prevent their being wetted by falling into the sea.

"It was exactly two o'clock when I began to descend gradually: and in five minutes after I touched the surface of the water, not farther than a mile and an half from the rocks of Fidra and Lamb; but as the wind below was pretty strong, and the balloon acting like a great sail upon my basket, I made way very fast, the water dashing like silver against my breeches and jacket. I turned round, but could see no boat whatever; but, when about two miles and a half from the south shore, I could distinguish three ships under sail about Anstruther or Kilrenny, and therefore was not under the least apprehension, especially as my course was towards the Island of May and these ships.

"The balloon was very much agitated by the wind, and sometimes turned round, so that I was frequently tossed into the water as high as my breast. When about five miles from North Berwick, I perceived a black spot, appearing and disappearing, according to the rising and lowering of the waves, directing its course from the Bass; and on paying more attention to it on my rising, I at last saw plainly that it was a boat; but as I was going with great rapidity, I quickly passed their parallel, and then, as the boat had gained the wind, and hoisted sails as well as made use of their oars, I began to assure myself that they would very quickly reach me, on which I began to wave the flag as a signal that I had seen them.

"The nearer I approached the ocean, the brisker the wind grew: and as I went at a great rate, I began to be in doubt whether I should cut away the balloon or not; but at last resolved not to do so; for, as it was growing dark, I would, without the balloon, have been too small an object to be seen at any distance, as I was at this time breast high in the water.

"I could now distinguish two ships under sail to North Berwick; the three that mentioned before on the same point, the Island of May about five miles distant, and another boat coming towards me at an incredible rate. I had lost the anchor, flag, and pendant, when the boat I saw at first approached within a gun shot of me. I prepared a big rope fastened to the upper part of the balloon, and, as soon as the boat came up, I gave the end of it to the fisherman, desiring them to make it fast to theirs; but, on my going on board, which I could not do by jumping, being very heavy with continuing so long in the water, and my hands very sore, they instantly let it go, and the balloon flew off that I had scarce time to perceive it distinctly till it was out of sight.

"I now sat in the boat as well as I could; but my feet was very disagreeable; the boat, besides my situation in other respects, being full of fish.

"The King's boat came up immediately after, and the gentlemen very politely invited me on board; but I was obliged to decline this kind offer, in order to shew my gratitude to the people that had taken me up. They set me ashore on Archer's Field about five o'clock; and I must confess, that I suffered very much all the time that I was in the boat. When I came ashore, I found a Mr. Nesbit's servant in waiting for me, with whom I set out to his master's house, which is a mile from the shore, and ran thither as fast as I was able, in order to make my blood circulate the more freely.

"Mr. Nesbit had gone to North Berwick to meet me there; and his charming lady had sent a physician (Mr. Hamilton) celebrated for his skill in recovering drowned people, dispatched a servant to another place with spirituous liquors, and had ordered a good fire, with two large blankets before it; and, in short, every thing was ready; as if she had been informed before-hand that I was to land there.

"I was hardly stripped, when Mr. Nesbit returned from North Berwick; he could not refrain from personally assilling me to dress, and expressing his joy in having me safe in such a comfortable place, after such a disagreeable and dangerous situation."

*Extract of a letter from Capt. D. Aire to V. Lunardi, Esq. dated Leith, Dec. 2.*

"I beg leave to send you a copy of a letter I had yesterday from David Henderson, chief mate of the Royal Charlotte cutter, under my command, dated off Anstruther, on board the cutter, the 21st December.

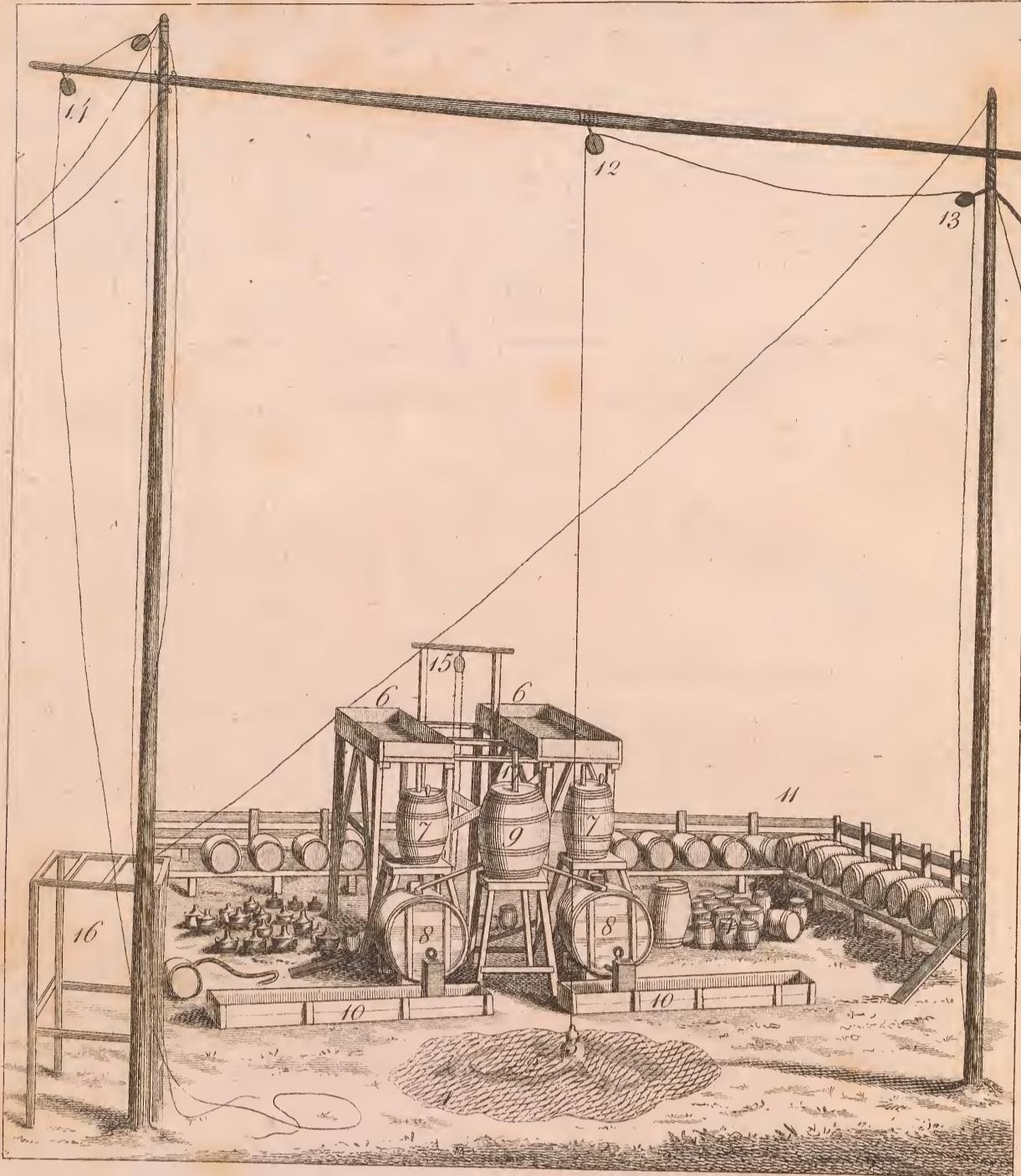
"At nine o'clock this morning, the May bearing N. W. distance twelve miles, discovered Lunardi's balloon in the water, directly hoisted out the boat, and got it on board. It is greatly tore. God knows what has become of the poor man. I have sent the balloon, and all its materials, ashore. It is as follows: To a balloon and ne'er greatly tore, basket, with eight bladders, four pieces of cork, three small lines, and a small piece of silk, weather-glass, the tube broken, a great blue coat, a hat and cockade."

*Extract of a Letter from Edinburgh, Dec. 21.*

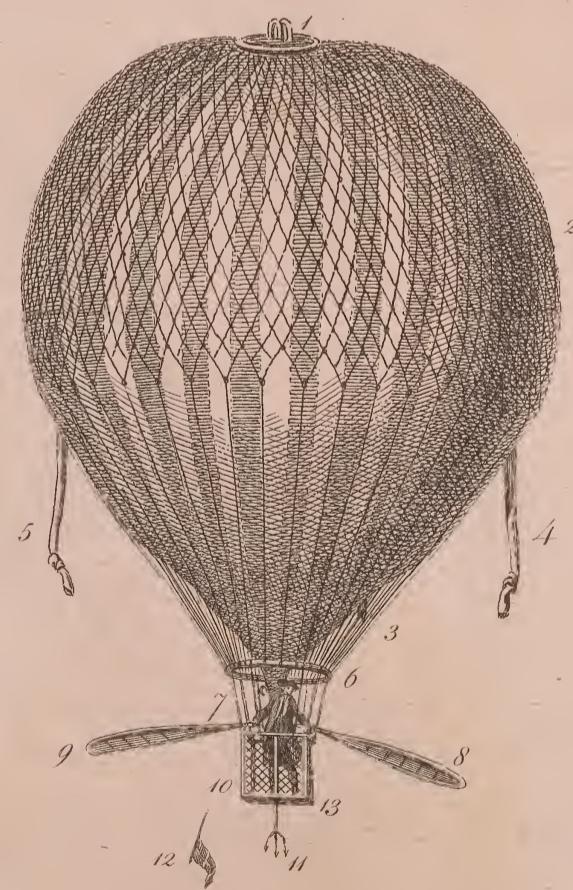
"Yesterday, a few Minutes before One o'Clock, Mr. Lunardi ascended in his Balloon from Heriot's Gardens. The Ascent was more gradual than his former one from the same Place, and consequently more gratifying to the numerous Spectators; but the Pleasure arising from the Sight was considerably abated, by the Course of the Balloon, which was in a direct Line towards the German Ocean. It continued in Sight near an Hour, and was, through a Telescope, observed to drop into the Sea. The Anxiety naturally occasioned by such an Event may be easily conceived, especially when it is considered that his going up was merely in Consequence of the Publick Impatience, and contrary to every Dictate of Prudence. It was a Reflection on the Humanity as well as good Sense of the Publick; and it must, therefore, on that Account, as well as on Account of the daring Adventurer himself, give general Pleasure to learn, that after being an Hour in the Water he was taken up by a Fishing Boat. The Fishermen came to Town this Morning, bringing his Sword with them, and report, that when they came up with him he was about five Miles off Gullane; that he could not possibly have held out much longer; and that they were under a Necessity of cutting away the Balloon, which rose rapidly, and soon disappeared. When he landed he was carried to Dirleton, the Seat of William Nisbet, Esq." 1785

4. Lunardi went up in a balloon at Naples on the 13th of September, from the inner court of the palace, and being out of sight some hours, descended, at a village 18 miles distant. The King, on his return, gave him 2000 ducats in specie, a medal worth 400 more, and a ring set with pearls.

*Apparatus for filling M<sup>r</sup> Lunardi's Balloon.*



The ENGLISH BALLOON and Appendages  
in which M<sup>r</sup> LUNARDI ascended into  
the Atmosphere, from the Artillery Ground,  
Sep<sup>r</sup>. 15 1784.



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## A C C O U N T

O F T H E

### *First Aërial Voyage in England.*

A N

## A C C O U N T

O F T H E

### *First Aërial Voyage in England.*

Vinard

In a S E R I E S of LETTERS  
to his GUARDIAN,

Chevalier Gherardo Compagni,

Written under the Impressions of the various Events  
that affected the Undertaking,

By VINCENT LUNARDI, Esq.  
Secretary to the Neapolitan Ambassador.

*A non esse, nec fuisse, non datur argumentum ad non posse.*

L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR: and sold at the PANTHEON; also  
by the Publisher, J. BELL, at the BRITISH LIBRARY, Strand;  
and at Mr. MOLINI's, Woodstock-Street.

M,DCC,LXXXIV.

Entered at Stationers Hall.

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These two nations emulate each other in all circumstances. And the progress and advantage of manufactures are not watched on either side with greater anxiety and jealousy, than a discovery in science, or an improvement in fine arts. This has the happiest effect, as it is accompanied with a liberality and candour that do honour to human nature.

The first rumours of Aërial Voyages were so swollen by the breath of fame, and the imaginary advantages to attend them, so rapidly and plausibly multiplied, that the genius of English philosophy, which, since the days of Newton, has born the palm of science, clouded her brows with a kind of dullness, and perhaps feared for a moment, the ascendancy of her sister.

The glory of a discovery is indivisible as the atoms of Epicurus; and in respect to aërostation, it remains, and must remain with France. It is supposed, and I speak it on better authority than rumour, that some of the most attentive and penetrating observers in England, meditate such improvements of Aërostatic Balloons, and such modes of applying them to use, as may give them an equal claim to glory with their philosophical rivals in France. But this has not hitherto been attended with any remarkable effects.

You will possibly wonder, that in such circumstances, at my age, with the numerous engagements and occupations of my office, not yet distinguished in the records of science, and but little known in a country so enlightened as England, I should have the ambition to be the first man who visited its atmosphere.

I have already acquainted you with the project of our friend Zambecari, and the reasons of its failure. Little disappointments

A N A C C O U N T

O F T H E

## FIRST AËRIAL VOYAGE in ENGLAND.

L E T T E R I.

MY HONOURED FRIEND, London, July 15, 1784.

THE innumerable instances of kindness I have received from you, and the respectful affection it has impressed on my mind, have insensibly led me into the habit of giving all my interesting thoughts and actions, some reference to you, and making your opinion and satisfaction necessary to my happiness.

You are well apprized of the general effect which the attempts to perform Aërial Voyages in France, have had in Europe; but you may not know, that the Philosophers in England have attended to them with a silence, and apparent indifference, not easily to be accounted for.

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disappointments and errors are often the means of instruction. I proceeded in a different method, and conceived the design of interesting generosity and humanity, in the patronage of an experiment of some hazard, particularly in the hands of a foreigner.

At the distance of two miles from this metropolis, stands a monument of liberal and prudent charity, first suggested (as it is said) to Charles II. by a licentious woman. It is the hospital of military invalids at Chelsea; an object of national attention; and managed with a respect to the intentions of the successive Princes who have patronized it, and to the health and comfort of the meritorious veterans who inhabit it, which are not common in national institutions.

This building consists of three sides of a spacious quadrangle: a garden sloping before it to the shore of the Thames; the vale extensive and fertile, and bounded by hills gently rising, highly cultivated, and beautifully marked with villas, churches and villages, all indicating the opulence and felicity of the inhabitants.

This I have fixed upon, in my mind, as a picturesque and propitious spot; and I wish, as it were from the altar of humanity, to ascend the skies.

I have, therefore, addressed the following request to Sir George Howard, governor of the hospital.

"Mr. LUNARDI has the honour to acquaint Sir George Howard, that he intends to construct an Air Balloon, in which he will ascend for the purpose of making some interesting experiments. But previous to his engaging in so expensive an undertaking, he wishes to be assured of a place for launching it, to which none

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"but subscribers can be admitted. If Sir George Howard will indulge him with his permission to launch it from Chelsea gardens, Mr. Lunardi purposed to devote whatever may exceed the expence of the undertaking to be divided among the Invalids of the hospital. Mr. Lunardi requests the favour of an answer from Sir George Howard."

The King of England is distinguished for an attention to the minutest variations in the state of science or the arts, as he is for an unblemished character, and the most scrupulous practice of all moral and religious obligations. The innumerable concerns of an empire, to which extent and unwieldiness alone have been an inconvenience, do not prevent his personal notice of any remarkable character, or his correct examination of any scientific event.

He has had the condescension to attend to the first probable intimations of a successful experiment with Balloons, and the governor, with his Majesty's approbation, has granted my request.

I know your friendly and parental bosom will have some emotions at the opening of a design, by a youth whom you have so long cherished and loved, which leads to glory, through some uncertainty and some danger. But my resolution is taken, and you know, within the bounds of life, nothing can shake it.

When I write to you, though at such a distance, I discharge a duty. It seems to have the effect of my usual methods of consulting you. I obtain my own approbation, and collect firmness and resolution, where perhaps I had my difficulties and doubts, and I take you with

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with me in every thing I do. This habit is favourable to my flumbers, which I find to be a little interrupted by the magnitude of my design. I will therefore avail myself of its influence.

Good night, my dearest and best friend, communicate my intelligence to my sisters, &c. and believe me to remain,

Your obliged and affectionate,

VINCENT LUNARDI.

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#### LETTER II.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I Know your anxiety to learn the progress of my undertaking.

Neither my fortune nor my œconomy have ever allowed me to be in affluence, I therefore enter on any business requiring expence, with some disadvantage. In Italy I should have sought the patronage and generosity of my Sovereign, or of some liberal and opulent nobleman, to enable me to sustain the expence of my present undertaking. Here wealth is more equally diffused; and by any contrivance that can gratify the curiosity of the people, sums of money are immediately collected, without the anxiety and mortification of petitioning the great. This has, in some measure, banished patronage from England; but ingenuous men are perhaps the better rewarded, and are not rendered slaves to the purposes and caprices of patrons. Hence are innumerable exhibitions, which are always open in London, and which are means of circulation, convenience, information and utility, almost unknown in every other country.

To proceed in my design, I have been obliged to adopt this custom. You will not be offended that a secretary to an embassy exhibits his Balloon, when you know that the first artists in the nation, under the immediate protection of the King, and incorporated into an academy, exhibit their pictures yearly, and that the price of admission is one shilling. This expedient adds two or three thousand a year to the income of the academy, and is neither an inconvenience or a dishonour, where the diffusion

of

LETTER

of wealth through the lowest ranks renders the whole nation the general patron of useful designs.

In the centre of London, and in a street called the Strand, because it runs by the edge of the Thames, there is a large room constructed for the exhibition of pictures, by the first society formed in England for the encouragement of painting and sculpture.

Italians viewed this society, and every other of a similar kind, as the Europeans do the establishment of manufactures in America. The English had been accustomed to send their youth to Italy to learn just so much of the fine arts as would enable them to purchase and imitate its productions. At this time there are names in England, which are equal in reputation to any in the world. This, however, is greatly owing to the patronage afforded by his Majesty, who has instituted an academy for sculpture and painting, and who is himself the best judge in his dominions of the productions of his artists.

The Institution of the academy, gradually weakened and destroyed the society, and their room has since been fitted up, for a species of entertainment which no country ever produced but England; that is, a debate on political subjects, continued at random by any man who would pay for his admission, and speak so as to amuse the assembly. In reference to this entertainment, it was called the Lyceum; and in that Lyceum I exhibit my Balloon.

As the minutest step I take is interesting to you, I shall send you some of my proposals and advertisements just as they appear.

#### ADVERTISE.

#### A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

I take the liberty to acquaint that I have undertaken the construction of a Globe of 32 feet in diameter, with which I intend to ascend, as soon as completed, to make the most interesting experiments, especially that of going many miles before the wind, and keeping the Globe constantly not higher than a gun-shot; previous to my constructing the great Machine for direction.

Being already involved in great expences attending the construction of so large a Globe, made with the best oiled silk—the filling it with inflammable air—the Machinery for the experiments, &c.—am obliged to solicit the assistance of the liberal promoters of ingenuity, in an undertaking of so curious a nature; by the improvements I flatter myself to have invented, I hope to render the discovery of great public utility; and presume to request you will have the goodness to honour me with your support and subscription: as approbation of my scheme may have weight with others, and induce them to conceive the practicability of it.

The gallery, oars, and wings are already made, and to be seen at the Lyceum, Exeter-Change, Strand, where the Balloon is now constructing, and will be finished in about a fortnight. With which, when completed, I intend to set off from Chelsea-Hospital Garden, having already obtained his Majesty's patronage, and Sir George Howard's permission.

*Subscriptions are taken in at Mr. Debret's, Bookseller, opposite Burlington-House, Piccadilly; Mr. Booker, Stationer, No. 56, New Bond-Street; Mr. Barnes, Engraver, Coventry.*

ventry-Street, Hay-Market; Mr. Adams, Mathematician to his Majesty, No. 60, Fleet-Street; and at Messrs. Nairne and Blunt, Mathematical and Philosophical Instrument-makers, No. 20, Cornhill, opposite the Royal-Exchange.

Which Mr. LUNARDI will give his Receipt for.

The guinea subscribers will be admitted into Chelsea-Hospital Garden, and have a chair near the Globe the day of ascending, and may view the construction at the Lyceum four different times.

A half guinea subscriber will likewise be admitted into the Garden on the above day, and also be accommodated with a seat on benches, next to the chairs, and admitted twice to see the construction of the Machine.

The probability that my design would be executed, produced, what hardly any recommendatory letters, or other common means of introduction will do in England, I mean an acquaintance with persons of merit and consequence. England is open to all the world, either in war or peace; and a man of talents whether liberal or mechanic, cannot fail of support and encouragement in proportion to his merit. But it would be wholly useless to bring to London such letters of recommendation as would in any city on the continent enable a man to run through almost all the houses in it. Here the prodigious resort of strangers has nearly destroyed that indiscriminate species of hospitality, which prevails on the continent; and which while it may be agreeable to those who travel to get rid of time, has not sufficient utility to atone for its inconvenience. But

when once a circumstance in the situation or character of a stranger has attracted the notice of an Englishman; and he has declared himself his protector and friend, it is worth a thousand of the civilities of general hospitality: a reliance may be had on its sincerity; and the friendship is permanent in duration, as it is slow in growth.

Sir Joseph Banks is among the first persons who have taken notice of my design; and he has honoured my subscription with his name. The reputation he has acquired as the first botanic collector in the world; as the friend and companion of Captain Cook, in one of his voyages round the globe; as the president of the Royal Society; and the general patron of knowledge and merit, renders any account of him to you unnecessary.

My subscription however comes in but slowly; nor has the Balloon, though larger, constructed of better materials and on better principles than any that has yet appeared in England, excited the curiosity I expected. This is partly owing to some ridiculous exhibitions of the kind which have been had at the same place, and which have diffused a disposition to incredulity and suspicion.

My Balloon is composed of oiled silks, of which 520 yards are inserted in alternate stripes of blue and red, which give it a very lively and pleasing appearance. Its form is spherical. The horizontal dimension of it is 33 feet; its circumference 102. It is kept suspended, and at present is filled with common air only, which I inject with bellows, through tubes of oiled silk that pass through its sides. More than two thirds of the Globe are covered with a strong net, from which depend forty five cords, forming equal sections on its lower part, and uniting at the bottom. These will be fastened to a circular frame,

frame, that forms the upper part of the vehicle in which I mean to perform my Aërial Voyage. It will be furnished likewise with wings and oars; the use of the former is to excite air when the globe is becalmed, and thereby to move it horizontally: they have the form of large rackets, and are covered with a loose flounces of oiled silk. The oars which differ from the wings only in size, will be worked with a vertical Motion, and are intended to effect a depression of the machine; by which I hope to be enabled either to check its ascension, or to descend without the necessity of letting out the inflammable air.

I exhibit these, not only as matters of curiosity to persons who have not seen or understood the French experiments; but to point out to those who have, the peculiar object of my enterprize. For I have the ambition to be the first, not only to visit the English atmosphere, but to ascertain the practicability of rendering the Balloon stationary, or descending at pleasure by means of oars, acting vertically; and superceding the use and necessity of valves. In this only circumstance I aim to deviate into originality, from the splendid and successful track of the French philosophers.

There are two methods of filling a Balloon for ascension; and it is remarkable, that the method first discovered and executed by M<sup>srs</sup>. Montgolfier, is the most hazardous and difficult to apply to use. It is effected, as a chimney is heated, by a common fire; and a Balloon of this kind is a moving chimney, closed at the top, made of light materials, and raised by the elasticity which is always given to air by fire.

This requires a constant application of fire to the contents of the Balloon, which is a difficult operation; and

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the least error in the application may be the occasion of consuming the apparatus, and endangering the lives of those who trust to it.

I have chosen inflammable rather than elastic air for my guide. It is a substance produced by the action of vitriolic acid on metals or semi-metals, and is similar to that vapour which takes fire in mines, and carries terror and destruction wherever it approaches. This you will say is changing one hazardous instrument for another, but the chances of setting fire to the elastic Balloon, or of not applying the heat so equally as to answer the purposes of ascension, are numerous; those of exploding an inflammable Balloon, arise only from thunder clouds; and if proper attention be paid to the weather, they are not numerous or difficult to be avoided: besides, inflammable air being *seven times* lighter than atmospherical air, and rarified air not more than *three times* lighter, the Machine must of course be proportionably larger in the use of the latter than in that of the former.

My design to use inflammable air, has been the occasion of my acquaintance with Doctor George Fordyce, a physician of eminence, a lecturer in chemistry, and probably the first chemist in the island. I consider this as a very fortunate circumstance; for besides the improvement and satisfaction I derive from his friendship, he has offered in the kindest manner to fill the Balloon, in a method which is an improvement on that of the French philosophers, as he contrives the tubes for conveying the inflammable so as to prevent the admission of any atmospheric air. He is also of opinion, that air produced by the vitriolic acid and zinc alone, is the lightest of any that has been yet used,

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But, in the leading incidents of this æra of my life, I must reckon among the happiest, my introduction to Mr. Biggin, a young gentleman, distinguished by his birth, education, and fortune; of improved and elegant accomplishments, a strong lover of science, and of a liberal and affectionate heart. This young gentleman, in the first days of our acquaintance, expressed a wish to accompany me in my ascent. And as the regions I intended to visit are unknown, and Mr. Biggin's talents so useful and engaging, I have accepted his offer. The voyage will, by this circumstance, be rendered more interesting, we shall direct our particular attention to different objects; and in any of those incidents which novelty may render astonishing, we shall communicate and multiply our joy, or lessen and remove our apprehensions.

I am, Sir,

with great regard,

your much obliged, and most humble servant,

London, August 2, 1784. VINCENT LUNARDI.

### LETTER III.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

THE events of this extraordinary island, are as variable as its climate. You here experience the extremes of elevation and dejection, as you do of heat and cold in a shorter time, and in a greater number of occurrences, than in any country I know in the world. When I wrote you last, every thing relative to my undertaking wore a favourable and pleasing appearance. I am at this moment overwhelmed with anxiety, vexation and despair.

On advertising my intention to go up with my Balloon, it was natural to suppose that any latent ambition of the same kind would shew itself, and perhaps spring forward to seize the applause attending the execution of such an enterprize. I do not say, that this would not have disappointed me; but it would not have left me in any situation of distress like the present.

A Frenchman whose name is Moret; and who may possibly have assisted at some trials at Paris to launch Balloons in the manner of Montgolfier, advertised as it were in competition with me; and fixed on a day for ascending with his Balloon, previous to that, on which I had the permission of Sir George Howard to make my excursion from Chelsea-Hospital.

To hasten my own undertaking would have been entering into a ridiculous race with Moret; and if I had been inclined to such a measure, it was probable, that the day appointed

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appointed for me would not have been changed, without a better reason than could have been assigned from the competition. I therefore waited, with as much patience as I could command, the event of Moret's experiment; imagining, however it would fail, from a view of the Balloon; but having no apprehension of such consequences as might involve my disappointment, or my ruin.

On the 11th of August, his advertisements assembled a company of three or four hundred persons in a Garden at Chelsea; and unfortunately for me, at a small distance from the Hospital where I was permitted to exhibit. The gardens and fields around the place were crowded with fifty or sixty thousand people, not so much from Economy, as incredulity, and suspicion, of the undertaking. That was greatly owing to his manner of anticipating my design, which threw on him and me, undeservingly, the imputation of imposture.

From one to four o'clock the company waited with patience, the filling and ascension of the Balloon; and when every effort was seen to fail, and the Balloon sunk into the fire which expanded it, the mob rushed in; tore it in a thousand pieces; robbed many of the company; levelled with the ground all the fences of the place and neighbourhood; and spread desolation and terror through the whole district.

I saw into many of the consequences which would affect my own undertaking. Though the people of England are comparatively well informed and enlightened; yet the multitude in all nations is nearly alike. The misfortune of Moret was attributed to imposture; and a suspicion of a similar nature was extended to me. I felt all the immediate

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diate inconveniences of guilt; as you will see by the following copies of letters: though nothing could be farther from my thoughts than any intention to be concerned in an imposition.

*Chelsea-Hospital, August 14, 1784.*

SIR,

IT having been represented to the governor of this place, that a riot was occasioned by an attempt to raise an Air Balloon in this neighbourhood on Wednesday last; I have his orders to acquaint you, that it is impossible he can on any consideration, subject this College, to the insults of a mob, and at the same time, he directs me to say how disagreeable it is to him to refuse his consent, but that his determination is unalterably fixed. I have the honour to be

SIR,

Your most obedient,

And most humble servant,

W.M. BULKELEY.

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On the receipt of this letter I waited on Major Bulkeley and describing the hardship of being involved in the consequences of the faults or misfortunes of another, I prevailed on him to represent my situation to the governor. In consequence of which I received this final resolution of Sir George Howard.

SIR,

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SIR, *Chelsea College, August 17th, 1784.*

"I have this moment received a letter from Sir George Howard, in answer to one I wrote to him on Monday last, after I had the honour of seeing you, and he desires me to acquaint you, that he must again repeat the impossibility of his consenting to the exhibition of your Air Balloon in any place belonging to Chelsea College; his duty absolutely forbids it, and no consideration shall make him do it after what happened last week. That he is very sorry you should meet with any disappointment, but that nothing shall make him do what he cannot justify, and that, at all events, it cannot take place at Chelsea College, and, therefore, that it is absolutely necessary you should look out for some other place, and give notice of it in the public papers.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble servant,

"W. BULKELEY."

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Balloons has been admitted here with reluctance; the pompous accounts of French voyages are credited, after making large allowances for Gallic vanity; and all hypotheses respecting a certain and useful application of the discovery are considered as romantic visions. This prepossession, however, does not prevent philosophers and men of letters here from discerning the practicability of every thing that has been effected in France. But they are not much more numerous in this than in other nations; they do not always regulate the opinions of the people, and, in this case, they are not very desirous of undeceiving them. The national prejudice of the English against France is suffered to have its full effect, on a subject from which the literati of England expect to derive but little honour; an unsuccessful attempt has been made by a Frenchman; and my name being that of a foreigner, a very excusable ignorance in the people may place me among the adventurers of that nation, which are said to have sometimes distinguished themselves here by ingenious impositions.

I am apprehensive, therefore, I must relinquish my undertaking, after an expence which my circumstances can ill bear, and when the satisfaction and glory of accomplishing it are just within my reach.

Adieu, my dear friend, I regret the necessity of leaving on your mind, the melancholy impressions which this letter must make. You may depend on it I shall conduct myself in every event with a proper recollection of your solicitude and regard for me. For I shall ever remain, most sincerely yours,

*London, Aug. 18, 1784. VINCENT LUNARDI.*

LETTER

I am now sunk into the utmost depth of distress. Though I may be said to have no reputation to lose in a kingdom where I am scarcely known, I yet experience the most poignant mortification at seeing my hopes destroyed, and myself, in the slightest degree, suspected of any thing inconsistent with honour, and an ardent love of science.

You will say, it is an imputation on the character of an enlightened kingdom, to pre-judge an experiment which has not been made, especially as I propose to do only what has been proved to be practicable in France. I have already told you that every thing respecting Air Balloons

## LETTER IV.

MY HONOURED FRIEND,

I still have hopes: for what philosophers dare not attempt, the ladies easily accomplish. They can smile into acquiescence that uncouth monster, public prejudice; and they regulate the opinions and manners of a nation at pleasure.

My perseverance, amidst the difficulties and supposed dangers which surround me, in consequence of the failure of Moret, has given me an air of heroism which you know interests the fair sex. The Lyceum therefore is crowded with company, and particularly Ladies, who take for granted I am to ascend; many of them wish I were not engaged to Mr. Biggin, that they might accompany me; and, with that bewitching air of sincerity which is almost peculiar to the women of this country, and which I think more difficult to resist than the coquetry of my own, they express a tender concern for my safety, which fixes my determination: and I will ascend, if I do it from the street.

I have a prospect of being accommodated with an inclosed piece of ground, which is appropriated for the exercise of a body of armed citizens, viz. the Hon. Artillery Company. This corps is composed of all the officers of the six regiments of the London Militia, and other gentlemen to the amount of five hundred. It is a collection or assemblage of officers, all independent; in officers uniforms, who in case of emergency might exercise; in a month, twenty thousand men. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is Captain-general, and Sir Watkin Lewis, one of the representatives

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in Parliament for the city of London is their colonel. To this gentleman I have made application, and the Rev. Mr. Kirwan, chaplain to the embassy, whose friendship upon this, and every other occasion, I shall ever remember with gratitude, did me the honour to wait upon him, and represented the consequence of my disappointment of Chelsea-garden, and the very great expences I have been at, and that unless the Honourable Artillery Company would take me under their protection, I could get no proper place for the experiment, from the apprehension of riots and disturbances. Sir Watkin heard his representation with candour, and after enquiring into the principles on which my Balloon was constructed, the reasons of the failure of Monsieur De Moret, and attending to every information on the subject which could be given by Doctor Fordyce, Mr. Biggin and me, he promised to lay my application before the Court of Assistants of the Artillery Company. The honourable mention he was pleased to make of me, and of my endeavours to promote science by executing the experiment; the support he gave my application, and the liberality with which he acted, and which distinguish his character, demand my warmest thanks. You would be astonished at the apprehensions and prejudices excited, even in this respectable body, by the failure of De Moret. In vain did Sir Watkin recommend to them to exercise their own judgment; a violent debate took place; and the concession was carried only by his casting vote. I had been led by policy as well as inclination, to connect charity with the other motives, which might induce the English to favour my enterprize. I engaged to give a Hundred Guineas to the family of the late Sir Bernard Turner, as

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an inducement to the Court of Assistants, to grant me the Artillery Ground to receive my company, and to launch my Machine. Another Court was called, which was necessary to confirm the proceedings of the former; that was numerously attended, and the proposal again carried by the casting vote of Sir Watkin Lewis.

In consequence of this grant from the Honourable the Artillery Company, I published the following advertisement.

## GRAND AIR BALLOON,

With which Mr. LUNARDI, and an ENGLISH GENTLEMAN, are to ascend into the Atmosphere.

M R. LUNARDI is extremely happy to have it in his power to inform the public, that in consequence of an application made to the honourable Artillery Company, they have been so kind as to accommodate him with the use of their ground, for the purpose of executing the experiment he has undertaken, with this condition annexed, that he shall pay one hundred guineas to be added to the subscription for the children of the late Sir Bernard Turner: The very laudable and benevolent motive which influenced the honourable company to make this demand, was of itself sufficiently operative on the feelings, to remove every objection on the part of Mr. Lunardi to a proposal that flowed from the impulse of philanthropy and the cause of humanity. Mr. Lunardi wishes to testify his gratitude

tude in the warmest manner to the public, and will feel a pleasure inexpressible in being able, by their means, to contribute to the relief of distress, and in particular, that of the family of so respectable an individual as Sir Bernard Turner. He desires to return his sincere thanks to the Honourable Artillery Company, for the great civility he has received from them, and particularly for the favour of resolving to appear under arms, for the purpose of preserving order and regularity on the day of his Balloon being launched. He has the highest sense of the honour they intend him, and the additional satisfaction of acquainting the public, that the three avenues leading to and from the Ground, as well as the outside of the gates, will be guarded by the serjeants of the City Militia and the Peace-Officers, in order to render the access to the Artillery Ground easy and convenient to his subscribers, and to all others who may be led to favour him with their presence on that day, which is determined to be Wednesday the 15th instant, between Twelve and One o'clock, if the weather permits.

As Mr. Lunardi is desirous to prevent confusion, he has determined that no money shall be taken at the gates of the Artillery Ground, or any person admitted without tickets which are now issuing at the office adjoining to the *Lyceum* at one guinea, half a guinea, and five shillings,

Tickets, which have already been delivered for Chelsea Hospital Garden, will admit the bearers into the Artillery Ground.

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At this time upwards of twenty thousand persons had attended the exhibition of the Balloon and apparatus at the Lyceum; and I had no doubt the proprietor of the room, who had received the money, and who had made such a bargain that the pecuniary advantage was to be his, and the hazard and loss to be mine, would immediately enable me to fulfill my agreement with the Artillery Company, and remove the Balloon and apparatus to the ground. But I was mistaken. There are men like sharks, who, by devouring, seem only to be rendered insatiable; and those men are not peculiar to the Jewish nation.

If there were not a probability that these letters may appear in England, I would lay open the whole of this transaction, and the character of the man with whom I unfortunately became connected. But though the English boast of the liberty of the press, they enjoy it with such exceptions, as are difficult to be understood by a stranger. Indeed it is not understood by themselves, for they are ever debating the subject. One of the exceptions to the liberty of writing and speaking, and which nearly annihilates it, is, that *truth* constitutes, or is at least an aggravation of a libel. Satirists therefore in this country, are strictly confined to *falsehood*; and in this, it is very possible they may yield obedience to a learned judge's opinion of the law. It is possible, however, that this celebrated lawyer, being at the head of the King's Bench, may only aim to wrest from the press the adjudication and punishment of every species of delinquency; and that he considers reciprocal defamation and injury in the public papers, like duelling, an appeal from the laws to the passions of individuals. Be this as it may, I shall err on the best side, if I err at all, by avoiding expressions of resentment against a character

character too insignificant for public notice, and too fixed in its habits to be amended by reprobation. It will be sufficient to say, that he attempted to take cruel advantages of my situation, and proposed such conditions of assistance as I must have been insane to accept.

What to do in these circumstances I was at a loss to imagine. Fatigue, agitation of mind, and that kind of shame which attends a breach of promise, however involuntary, induced me to send an apology to the committee of the Artillery Company, instead of waiting on them myself. Conceiving this an attempt to deceive them, they rescinded their former resolution respecting the appearance of the men under arms, and ordered the materials for fixing and preparing the balloon which had been sent, to be thrown out; unless I paid the hundred guineas the next morning, and found securities in five hundred pounds to indemnify the Artillery Company for any injury that might be done to the premises.

Difficulties generate difficulties. The man at the Lyceum, apprized of the resolutions of the Artillery Company, locked up my Balloon and apparatus, and declared they should never be removed until I consigned to him a moiety of all the possible advantages which my present and future enterprizes of a similar kind might produce.— Moderate oppression might have ruined me. Enormous injustice rouses and interests the generous and humane. My case was soon known; I was enabled to send the money; Sir Watkin Lewis and Mr. Kirwan were kind enough to become securities to the Artillery Company. The magistrates of the police took me under their protection; warranted me in forcibly wresting my Balloon out of the Lyceum, and also protected me in conveying

it to the Artillery Ground on Tuesday, the 14th, under a guard, which was ordered by Sir Sampson Wright and William Addington, Esq. in a manner that did honour to their personal as well as official characters.

Behold me—I was going to say—but I should be extremely sorry you were to see me, exhausted with fatigue, anxiety and distress, at the eve of an undertaking that requires my being collected, cool, and easy in mind. The difficulties thrown in my way, have postponed all my preparations; and indisposed and exhausted as I am, I cannot avoid paying such attention to the operations of this night, as will allow me but little sleep. Doctor Fordyce is applying his ingenious apparatus to fill the Balloon. The process is admirable though slow; but, I hope by attending to it all night, I shall keep my appointment with the public to-morrow.

Adieu, my honoured and respectable friend; my health and spirits are injured by a series of unfortunate and cruel incidents; but if I succeed I shall be abundantly rewarded.

I am sincerely and affectionately yours,

London, Sept. 14, 1784. VINCENT LUNARDI.

#### L E T T E R V.

MY DEAR FRIEND, London, Wednesday, 15.

THE auspicious morning is arrived; and I will write the occurrences of it as they arise, lest any of those *supposed impossibilities* over-take me, which have lately haunted my designs. I have no apprehension, but of the populace; which is here, as it is every where, an impetuous, impatient and cruel tyrant. A disappointment is an offence, whatever be the occasion; and offenders, in every degree, are punished with the same species of injustice. The practicability of the experiment, though perfectly known to philosophers and men of letters, is not believed by the populace; and I have their prejudices to remove at the risque of that resentment and violence, which Sir George Howard did not chuse to encounter, even at the head of the veterans of the British army; which have made the Artillery Company doubt, hesitate, resolve and re-solve; and which will prevent those who would wish to encourage me from entering the ground.

Twelve o'Clock.

The view from the upper-apartments of the Artillery House, into which I sometimes retire, is striking and extraordinary; and serves to animate my imagination, for scenes more extensive and picturesque which I shall soon survey.

The fear of the populace, in case of a disappointment, has, as I expected, prevented my having much company in the Artillery Ground. But the windows and roofs of the fur-

furrrounding houses; scaffoldings of various forms and contrivances, are crowded with well-dressed people; and form a singular, and to me very interesting spectacle. They have viewed for hours with fixed and silent attention, the bustle around the apparatus and the gradual expansion of the Balloon. On my left, in a square, or rather parallelogram, the largest I know in Europe, a part of the populace of this immense place, is collected into one compressed and impenetrable mass. The whole would suggest to a tyrant the idea of a pavement of human heads; but I conceive the risque of going up in my Balloon trifling, compared with that of attempting to walk on the living surface I now contemplate. One hundred and fifty thousand countenances have all one direction; but I have reason to be anxious not to disappoint such a multitude, every one of which has been wedged in a painful situation the whole morning. You will think me whimsical, perhaps, in fixing my imagination, at this time, on a public institution of any kind. The principal area which contains the populace, is bounded by an extensive and noble building, devoted to the most compassionate and affecting of all the offices of benevolence. It is a retreat for the insane, who are not judged incurable; and it is called Bedlam. The arrangement, extent and wholesomeness of the apartments, the assiduity and care of the governors, physicians and apothecaries, and the unabating liberality with which it is supported, render it an object of universal respect. The figures of frenzy and melancholy at its gate are celebrated throughout Europe, and are deemed barely inferior to the admired productions of Greek sculpture. Which of these allegorical beings the people have assigned as my patron, I have not learned.

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suppose they may be divided; but they agree in the propriety of making my attempt near Bedlam, as the event, in their opinion, will render it necessary to convey me there. How happy should I be, if some kind spirit would instruct me, to emulate Astolpho\* on his flying horse, and to explore those regions where the straying wits of mortals betake themselves! But this is not a time for even benevolent reveries, and I indulge them in any degree, to repel unwelcome apprehensions.

#### Half after One.

The time fixed for my departure is elapsed; but the Balloon is not sufficiently filled for the purpose. The populace have given some intimations of impatience; and I may yet be pre-judged before I make my attempt. The presence of the Prince of Wales; and the obvious satisfaction with which he views the progress of the preparations may remove the suspicion of deceit, and restrain the impetuosity of the people. The condescending affability of the Prince, and the interest he deigns to express, by repeated wishes for the safety of Mr. Biggin and me, are pleasing alleviations of my present anxiety. His Royal Highness remains near the Apparatus, without going to the company in the house. Those who attend him, pay their court, and I dare say, express their real sentiments by anxieties for his safety. They apprehend dangers from the apparatus and from tumults—his Royal Highness apprehends none, for he is really better informed,

\* Vide Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso*, where the English Knight is said to have mounted to the moon, to bring back the wits of Orlando—Query, Are not the fables of flying horses, dragons, &c. presumptions that the principle of Air Balloons is not a modern discovery?

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asks questions with more judgment, and directs his curiosity in a better manner than is usual to persons of his high rank and his early years. He seems, now and then to express his wishes for our safety, as if not destitute of doubt: Indeed the whole company view us with a kind of regret, as devoted persons, whose return is at least problematical. This is pleasing to us, only as it is a proof of polite humanity. We are not under the slightest apprehensions of danger, when once committed to the Balloon. I must own, the concern betrayed by the looks of my friends, though I know it to be without reason, has a considerable effect on me. Prince Caramanico, my kind patron and benefactor, is evidently under some apprehension; and I shall remember my whole life this unequivocal proof of his friendship. As those who interest themselves in my fate, bid me adieu, in the most expressive, though silent manner, I thus take my leave of you. Whatever becomes of me, I know this testimony of my respectful regard will be affectionately received by you. Adieu, my honoured friend. I will conclude my letter on my return.

*Friday Evening, 24th September.*

I was this morning to have been presented to the King, but the anxiety and fatigue I had endured, exhausted my strength and spirits, in such a manner, as to occasion a violent fit of sickness, which confined me to my bed, and deprived me of the honour and satisfaction I had promised myself on the occasion.

This is the first moment since my excursion, I have been able to take up my pen with the probability of giving you an account of it; and I am determined the post shall not go out this evening without it.

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A little before two o'clock on Wednesday, Mr. Biggin and myself were prepared for our expedition. His attention was allotted to the philosophical experiments and observations, mine to the conduct of the Machine, and the use of the vertical oars, in depressing the Balloon at pleasure.

The impatience of the multitude made it unadviseable to proceed in filling the Balloon, so as to give it the force it was intended to have. On ballancing that force with weights, it was supposed incapable of taking us up. When the gallery was annexed, and Mr. Biggin and I got into it, the matter was beyond doubt; and whether Mr. Biggin felt the most regret in relinquishing his design, or I in being deprived of his company, it may be difficult to determine. But we were before a Tribunal, where an instantaneous decision was necessary; for hesitation and delay, would have been construed into guilt; and the displeasure impending over us would have been fatal, if in one moment he had not had the heroism to relinquish, and I the resolution to go alone.

This event agitated my mind greatly; a smaller gallery was substituted; and the whole undertaking being devolved on me, I was preparing accordingly, when a servant brought me word, that an accident had befallen the Balloon, which would prevent my intended voyage. I hastened down, almost deprived of my senses; and though I was instantly convinced, that the injury was trifling, I could not recover the shock in time, to recollect that I should supply myself with those instruments for observation which had been appointed to Mr. Biggin. I threw myself into the gallery, determined to hazard no further accidents that might consign me and the Balloon to the fury

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fury of the populace, which I saw was on the point of bursting. An affecting, because unpremeditated testimony of approbation and interest in my fate, was here given. The Prince of Wales, and the whole surrounding assembly, almost at one instant, took off their hats, hailed my resolution, and expressed the kindest and most cordial wishes for my safety and success.

At five minutes after two, the last gun was fired, the cords divided, and the Balloon rose, the company returning my signals of adieu with the most unsigned acclamations and applause. The effect was, that of a miracle, on the multitudes which surrounded the place; and they passed from incredulity and menace, into the most extravagant expressions of approbation and joy.

At the height of twenty yards, the Balloon was a little depressed by the wind, which had a fine effect; it held me over the ground for a few seconds, and seemed to pause majestically before its departure.

On discharging a part of the ballast, it ascended to the height of two hundred yards. As a multitude lay before me of a hundred and fifty thousand people, who had not seen my ascent from the ground, I had recourse to every stratagem to let them know I was in the gallery, and they literally rent the air with their acclamations and applause. In these stratagems I devoted my flag, and worked with my oars, one of which was immediately broken, and fell from me. A pigeon too escaped, which, with a dog, and cat, were the only companions of my excursion.

When the thermometer had fallen from 68° to 61° I perceived a great difference in the temperature of the air. I became very cold, and found it necessary to take a few glasses of wine. I likewise eat the leg of a chicken, but

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my bread and other provisions had been rendered useless, by being mixed with the sand, which I carried as ballast.

When the thermometer was at fifty, the effect of the atmosphere, and the combination of circumstances around, produced a calm delight, which is inexpressible, and which no situation on earth could give. The stillness, extent, and magnificence of the scene, rendered it highly awful. My horizon seemed a perfect circle; the terminating line several hundred miles in circumference. This I conjectured from the view of London; the extreme points of which, formed an angle of only a few degrees. It was so reduced on the great scale before me, that I can find no simile to convey an idea of it. I could distinguish Saint Paul's, and other churches, from the houses. I saw the streets as lines, all animated with beings, whom I knew to be men and women, but which I should otherwise have had a difficulty in describing. It was an enormous beehive, but the industry of it was suspended. All the moving mass seemed to have no object but myself, and the transition from the suspicion, and perhaps contempt of the preceding hour, to the affectionate transport, admiration and glory of the present moment, was not without its effect on my mind. I recollect the puns\* on my name, and was glad to find myself calm. I had soared from the apprehensions and anxieties of the Artillery Ground, and felt as if I had left behind me all the cares and passions that molest mankind.

Indeed, the whole scene before me filled the mind with a sublime pleasure, of which I never had a conception.

\* In some of the papers, witticisms appeared on the affinity of, Lunatic & Lunardi.

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The critics *imagine*, for they seldom speak from experience, that terror is an ingredient in every sublime sensation. It was not possible for me to be on earth, in a situation so free from apprehension. I had not the slightest sense of motion from the Machine, I knew not whether it went swiftly or slowly, whether it ascended or descended, whether it was agitated or tranquil, but by the appearance or disappearance of objects on the earth. I moved to different parts of the gallery, I adjusted the furniture, and apparatus. I uncorked my bottle, eat, drank, and wrote, just as in my study. The height had not the effect, which a much lesser degree of it has near the earth, that of producing giddiness. The broom-sticks of the witches, Ariostos's flying-horse, and even Milton's sun-beam, conveying the angel to the earth, have all an idea of effort, difficulty, and restraint, which do not affect a voyage in the Balloon.

Thus tranquil, and thus situated, how shall I describe to you a view, such as the antients supposed Jupiter to have of the earth, and to copy which there are no terms in any language. The gradual diminution of objects, and the masses of light and shade are intelligible in oblique and common prospects. But here every thing wore a new appearance, and had a new effect. The face of the country had a mild and permanent verdure, to which Italy is a stranger. The variety of cultivation, and the accuracy with which property is divided, give the idea ever present to a stranger in England, of good civil laws and an equitable administration: the rivers meandering; the sea glistening with the rays of the sun; the immense district beneath me spotted with cities, towns, villages and houses, pouring

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out their inhabitants to hail my appearance: you will allow me some merit at not having been exceedingly intoxicated with my situation.

To prolong the enjoyment of it, and to try the effect of my only oar, I kept myself in the same parallel respecting the earth, for nearly half an hour. But the exercise having fatigued, and the experiment having satisfied me, I laid aside my oar, and again had recourse to my bottle; this I emptied to the health of my friends and benefactors in the lower world. All my affections were alive, in a manner not easily to be conceived, and you may be assured that the sentiment which seemed to me most congenial to that happy situation was gratitude and friendship. I will not refer to any softer passion. I sat down and wrote four pages of desultory observations, and pinning them to a napkin, committed them to the mild winds of the region, to be conveyed to my honoured friend and patron, Prince Caramanico.

During this busines I had ascended rapidly; for, on hearing the report of a gun, fired in the Artillery Ground, I was induced to examine the thermometer, and found it had fallen to 32°. The Balloon was so much inflated as to assume the form of an oblong spheroid, the shortest diameter of which was in a line with me, though I had ascended with it in the shape of an inverted cone, and wanting nearly one third of its full compliment of air. Having no valve, I could only open the neck of the Balloon; thinking it barely possible that the strong rarefaction might force out some of the inflammable air. The condensed vapour around its neck was frozen, though I found no inconvenience

nience from the cold. The earth, at this point, appeared like a boundless plain, whose surface had variegated shades, but on which no object could be accurately distinguished.

I then had recourse to the utmost use of my single oar; by hard and persevering labour I brought myself within three hundred yards of the earth, and moving horizontally, spoke through my trumpet to some country people, from whom I heard a confused noise in reply.

At half after three o'clock, I descended in a corn field, on the common of South Mimms, where I landed the cat\*. The poor animal had been sensibly affected by the cold, during the greatest part of the voyage. Here I might have terminated my excursion with satisfaction and honour to myself; for though I was not destitute of ambition, to be the first to ascend the English atmosphere, my great object was to ascertain the effect of oars, acting vertically on the air. I had lost one of my oars, but by the use of the other I had brought myself down, and was perfectly convinced my invention would answer. This, though a single, was an important object, and my satisfaction was very great in having proved its utility. The fatigues and anxiety I have endured, might have induced me to be content with what I had done, and the people about me were very ready to assist at my disembarkation; but my affections were afloat, and in unison with the whole country, whose transport and admiration seemed

\* Attestations of particular circumstances in this letter have been received since it was written, which the reader may see annexed, in the manner of an Appendix.

boundless. I bid them therefore keep clear, and I would gratify them by ascending directly in their view.

My general course to this place, was something more than one point to the westward of the north. A gentleman on horseback approached me, but I could not speak to him, being intent on my re-ascension, which I effected, after moving horizontally about forty yards. As I ascended, one of the balustrades of the gallery gave way; but the circumstance excited no apprehension of danger. I threw out the remainder of my ballast and provisions, and again resumed my pen. My ascension was so rapid, that before I had written half a page, the thermometer had fallen to 29°. The drops of water that adhered to the neck of the balloon were become like chrysalts. At this point of elevation, which was the highest I attained, I finished my letter, and fastening it with a cork-screw to my handkerchief, threw it down. I likewise threw down the plates, knives and forks, the little sand that remained, and an empty bottle, which took some time in disappearing. I now wrote the last of my dispatches from the clouds, which I fixed to a leather belt, and sent towards the earth. It was visible to me on its passage, for several minutes, but I was myself insensible of motion from the Machine itself, during the whole voyage. The earth appeared as before, like an extensive plain, with the same variegated surface; but the objects rather less distinguishable. The clouds to the eastward rolled beneath me, in masses immensely larger than the waves of the ocean. I therefore did not mistake them for the sea. Contrasted with the effects of the sun on the earth and water beneath, they gave a grandeur to the whole scene which no fancy can describe. I again be-

took myself to my oar, in order to descend; and by the hard labour of fifteen or twenty minutes I accomplished my design, when my strength was nearly exhausted. My principal care was to avoid a violent concussion at landing, and in this my good fortune was my friend.

At twenty minutes past four I descended in a spacious meadow, in the parish of Standon, near Ware, in Hertfordshire. Some labourers were at work in it. I requested their assistance; they exclaimed, they would have nothing to do with one who came in the Devil's house, or on the Devil's horse (I could not distinguish which of the phrases they used) and no intreaties could prevail on them to approach me. I at last owed my deliverance to the spirit and generosity of a female. A young woman, who was likewise in the field, took hold of a cord which I had thrown out, and calling to the men, they yielded that assistance to her request which they had refused to mine. A crowd of people from the neighbourhood soon assembled, who very obligingly assisted me to disembark. General Smith was the first gentleman who overtook me—I am much indebted to his politeness—he kindly assisted in securing the Balloon, having followed me on horseback from London, as did several other gentlemen, amongst whom were Mr. Crane, Capt. Connor, and Mr. Wright. The inflammable air was let out by an incision, and produced a most offensive stench, which is said to have affected the atmosphere of the neighbourhood. The apparatus was committed to the care of Mr. Hollingsworth, who obligingly offered his service. I then proceeded with General Smith, and several other gentlemen to the Bull Inn at Ware. On my arrival, I had the honour to be introduced to William Baker, Esq. Member for Hertford in the last parliament.

parliament. This gentleman conducted me to his seat at Bayford Bury, and entertained me with a kind of hospitality and politeness, which I shall ever remember with gratitude, and which has impressed on my mind a proper idea of that frank liberality and sincere beneficence, which are the characteristics of English Gentlemen.

The general course of the second part of my voyage, by which I was led into Hertfordshire, was three points to the eastward of the north from the Artillery Ground, and about four points to the eastward of the north from the place where I first descended.

This is the general account of my excursion. I shall take a few days to recover my strength, and whatever particulars occur to me I shall send you.

I am, with great regard,

Your much obliged,

And humble servant,

London, Sept. 24, 1784. VINCENT LUNARDI.

## LETTER VI.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I should, at this time, have as much difficulty in describing the effect of my success, on the whole English nation, as I had in conveying to you an idea of the apprehension and distress I felt, lest any untoward circumstances should prevent or defeat my undertaking.

The interest which the spectators took in my voyage was so great, that the things I threw down were divided and preserved, as our people would relicks of the most celebrated saints. And a gentlewoman, mistaking the oar for my person, was so affected with my supposed destruction, that she died in a few days. This circumstance being mentioned on Saturday, when I had the honour of dining with the Judges, Lord Mayor, Recorder and Sheriffs of London, I was very politely requested by one of the Judges, not to be concerned at the involuntary loss I had occasioned; that I had certainly saved the life of a young man who might possibly be reformed, and be to the public a compensation for the death of the lady. For the jury was deliberating on the fate of a criminal whom after the utmost allowance for some favourable circumstances, they must have condemned, when the Balloon appeared, and a general inattention and confusion ensued. The jury was perplexed with considerations on the case, which their curiosity would not suffer them to weigh, and being under a necessity to determine before they departed, they took the favourable side, and acquitted the criminal immediately: on which the court was adjourned to indulge itself in observing so novel a spectacle.

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I mention these things as they may prepare you for the reception I was honoured with on my return to London. No voyager from the most interesting and extensive discoveries; no conqueror from the most important victories, was ever enquired for with more solicitude, or welcomed with greater joy. The house of Prince Caramanico, had been besieged by multitudes early and late to have some account of my safety, or to applaud my return.

You may suppose when I came to town, I hastened to Prince Caramanico, who received me with every mark of affection and condescending friendship.

Here circumstances of gratulation and joy crowded on me every hour. I was flattered by learning that while I hovered over London, his Majesty was in conference with his principal ministers. On being informed that I was passing, the King said, 'We may resume our deliberations on the subject before us at pleasure, but we may never see poor Lunardi again.' The conference broke up, and his Majesty attended by Mr. Pitt and other great officers of state, viewed me through telescopes while I remained in their horizon.

I had received insults which I thought cruel by persons whose houses over-looked the ground, who erected scaffolds and let out their rooms, so as to deprive me of a chance of having my expences defrayed. I was no sooner returned, but some of these people hastened to atone for their mis-apprehensions of me. They had considered and treated me as an impostor. My ascension, as a charm, dissipated their ill opinion, and gave them an enthusiasm in my favour. I am offered the houses and scaffoldings for my own use, if I chuse to exhibit again. These things

things shew the importance of success in all undertakings which are not thoroughly understood by the multitude. I am introduced, not only into private families, but into public institutions with the most advantageous and flattering distinctions. The civilities of the Lord Mayor, the Judges, and other Magistrates, led me into the Courts of Law, and though I had made them objects of curiosity, I had never attended trials in circumstances so favourable to information. Every precaution which the wisdom of man can devise, seems to be taken here, to administer equal Justice between all contending parties. The Judges are appointed by the King, but rendered independent by an ample provision for their support, and by the tenure of their places, which is during good behaviour, and a proper discharge of their duty. But the peculiar happiness of English jurisprudence, is the appointment of juries from the neighbourhood of every offender to adjudge his particular case. The hint is taken from the appointment of judges in the courts of the Praetors, in the Roman republic: but those judges were chosen wholly from the citizens of Rome. In England every dispute is decided by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, who are obliged to attend the parties to the assizes, because they alone are capable of determining the nature of their actions, from a knowledge of their circumstances and characters. It is extraordinary, that Rome, who gave the first hints of this admirable mode of trial, should be insensible to its advantages, and perhaps ignorant of its existence.

My fame has not been sparingly diffused by the newspapers, which in England are the barometers of public opinion; often erroneous, as other instruments are, in their

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particular informations, but yielding the best that can be obtained. You will imagine the importance of these vehicles of knowledge, when you learn, that in London alone, there are printed no less than a hundred and sixty thousand papers weekly, which by a stamp on each paper, and a duty on advertisements, bring into the treasury of the nation upwards of eighty thousand pounds a year. They are to the English constitution, what the censors were to that of ancient Rome. Ministers of state are checked and kept in awe by them; and they freely, and often judiciously, expose the pretensions of those who would harass government, merely to be taken into its service. But the principal reason of their extensive circulation is, the information and entertainment they afford an opulent people, who have leisure and inclination to interest themselves in all public occurrences. On this account, the conductors of news-papers seize every opportunity of conveying the earliest information of all the events that take place in the kingdom, and though they must be often mistaken, yet the dexterity with which they trace all sources of Intelligence is such, that they are generally right.

I have reason to thank the managers of all the papers, for their candour and partiality to me. I send you an account from one of them, written and published within a few hours after my descent, founded only on immediate observation and conjecture. You will, thereby, form your opinion, of the attention and industry employed in these prints, on all similar, and indeed on all interesting occasions, and you may amuse yourself by comparing their conjectures with facts.

## ORNING POST,

Thursday, September 16th, 1784.

## LUNARDI'S AERIAL EXCURSION.

To combat the prejudices of a nation, and the incredulity of mankind, especially when deterred by examples of resentment in consequence of deception or misfortune; when awed by the danger incurred in experiment, and the uncertainty of success in the project, must certainly require the greatest effort of human resolution. Whilst we are recollecting the occasion, which collected one-tenth of the inhabitants of the metropolis within the optical powers of an individual, we cannot help indulging ourselves in these eccentric reflections. The aerial voyage which has long been proposed by Mr. Lunardi, was appointed for yesterday, and perhaps the English nation never witnessed upon any occasion whatever, such a number of persons collected together, and so *loftily* displayed as were to be seen in the environs of Moorfields; not a plain, or an eminence, a window or a roof, a chimney or a steeple, within the view of Bedlam, but were prodigiously thronged—About half past one o'clock, the Prince of Wales arrived in the Artillery Ground, and after receiving the salutations of the Gentlemen of the Artillery, though not *à la militaire* but *en obeissance cap-à-pée*, his Royal Highness having expressed a wish to dispense with military attentions; he viewed the apparatus of the Balloon and retired to the Armory House, which was occupied by persons who had liberally paid the adventurer for their admission;

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admission; we were sorry indeed to observe that such general advantages had been taken by the neighbourhood, of farming their windows, and for benefits which were due only to the novelty and spirit of the enterprise. About a quarter before two o'clock the Balloon was sufficiently filled and closed, and the gallery and other apparatus prepared to be suspended; but on Mr. Lunardi, and his intended companion, whom we understand to be Mr. Biggin, a young gentleman of fortune and enterprise, having taken their situations, and finding that the Machine was unequal to their weight, it was determined that Mr. Lunardi should ascend alone. A cannon having been fired as a preparatory signal, Mr. Lunardi having embraced his friends, and all matters being adjusted, a second cannon was fired as the signal of ascension. Insensible must that heart be which did not feel itself anxious and interested at that moment for the fate of him, who intrepidly stepped into his seat, and, Phæton-like, seized the reins which were to guide the Chariot of the Sun. About five minutes after two o'clock, the Machine was launched; and as if dreading the course it had to run, and unwilling to proceed, after having mounted about twelve yards, it reclined to its native earth; but roused by ambition, and the spirit of philosophical researches, Mr. Lunardi rebuked its fear, and gave its swiftness to its airy flight. He took his seat in the gallery with great composure and confidence on the Balloon's being launched; but finding himself too equally poised, he readily discharged part of his ballast, which consisted of small bags of white dry sand, and by that means relieved his weight, and caused a regular and most beautiful ascention. After he had cleared the buildings, subject to the direction of the

the easterly wind, he saluted the populace with great elegance and gallantry, by waving a blue flag, which he had taken for that purpose, and seemingly bidding them a friendly adieu. The gallery was formed of an upright four-feet square, and netted with a strong cord, about breast high, but quite open at the top. After this salutation, for the space of five minutes he dropt his flag with an air of security, and having seated himself, took to his oars; but as we since learn, finding they compressed the wind too much, he disengaged one, which was taken up about Smithfield; at that time his friends were alarmed for the consequence. Steering at this moment due west, he suddenly tacked towards the north, and with little variations, according to the altitude he obtained, till he seemed by degrees to establish that direction, his progress seemed exceedingly elevated and swift, although the Balloon appeared under masterly management; we viewed this object, nevertheless, distinctly for one hour and twenty minutes, with a mixture of anxiety and delight, not unallayed, however, by a friendly dread for the ultimate effect, until we were this moment relieved by the following intelligence from very good authority, viz. That Mr. Lunardi lowered himself towards the earth near Barnet, but not approving the situation, and finding he had the command of his machine, he discharged a part of his ballast, and pursued his course until he arrived over Collier's-hill, five miles beyond Ware in Hertfordshire, at twenty-five minutes past four o'clock; there he alighted, and was received by the neighbourhood with testimonies of admiration; he afterwards returned to town, where no doubt, his friends, and every true lover of courage and merit will receive him with friendship and respect. His companions in this adven-

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trous voyage were a dog and cat, the latter was destroyed, and the dog was almost spent by the severity of climates thro' which they passed. Mr. Lunardi himself was, of course, affected by the change of elements, as may be readily conceived by those who are told, that icicles were hanging on his cloaths.

Such were the incidents of yesterday, and we heartily wish that the effects may be valuable to the projector; every Englishman should feel an emulation to reward him; for uncertain as the good to be derived from such an excursion may be thought, yet it becomes the nobleness of our nature to encourage them. Discoveries beyond the reach of human comprehension at present, may by perseverance be accomplished. Emulation and industry are a debt which is due to posterity, and he who shrinks from innovation is not his country's friend. Encouragement is the spur to emulation, and emulation the parent frequently of excellence; let Mr. Lunardi therefore be rescued by a generous public out of the hands of a Villain, who has emphatically been described, as being industrious only in matters wherein honest men would be ashamed, but to whom Mr. Lunardi has been a dupe in this undertaking, and injured instead of being benefited by the danger he has encountered.

On the Sunday immediately after my return, I had the honor of waiting on Sir James Wright, who had been politely solicitous to give me testimonies of his approbation. He had the goodness to represent to his Majesty that I wished to lay an account of my voyage at his Majesty's feet; who appointed Friday for my attendance at St. James's.

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On Wednesday Sir James Wright took me to court. The drawing-room was very crowded, it being the Anniversary of the King's Coronation. I was surrounded with the ministers of state, and the nobility, when the Prince of Wales entered the drawing-room, my person was pointed out to him by one of the secretaries of state, on which he said in the lively and familiar manner which is peculiar to him, "O Mr. Lunardi, I am very glad to see you alive." As a proof of the attention of this amiable prince, I must let you know he did me the honour to send his Equerry to say, he observed at my ascension, I had not a watch describing seconds of time, as I was under a necessity of borrowing one from Mr. Aubert, who has since honoured me with his friendly attention, and that his Royal Highness had ordered his watch-maker to take my directions for such a one as might be useful to me another time. On mentioning this circumstance to Prince Caramanico, he immediately said, I might want such a watch before that which was ordered by the Prince of Wales could be ready; and taking out his own, presented it to me in the kindest manner imaginable.

The rumour that I had sunk a considerable sum of money by the adventure was soon circulated, and subscriptions have been opened in several parts of London for my advantage, but with what effect I must not yet presume to judge.

But you will wonder, perhaps, that I should think it necessary on this occasion to become an author. Spurious accounts, and misrepresentations of my excursion, have been published by booksellers of some consideration here. They have been reprobated freely and perhaps severely by my publisher; who is very warm and zealous for my interest; and who suggested to me the plan of revising and publishing my letters to you, as necessary to the reputation of my undertaking;

dertaking; and likely to be conducive to my advantage. He is a man of spirit and judgment in his profession, whose name is already familiar to you and all the world, by his compleat and beautiful edition of the English poets. I have yielded to his advice, and entertain the fullest confidence that under his direction—my enterprize will not be dishonoured. He is now soliciting the attention of the public towards a new edition of Shakspere's works, which, by the elegance of the specimen he has produced, promises to render an author, whose genius is here deemed only short of inspiration, celebrated in all parts of the world, not exempting those where his native language is not understood. Permit me, as a mark of gratitude, to recommend that work, in its infant state, to your protection and encouragement. I have taken the liberty of entering your name as a subscriber, and hope soon to have the pleasure of adding many more by your means.

Most of my time is now taken up with the exhibition of the Balloon, and indeed of myself, for the principal curiosity is to see me, at the Pantheon, which is one of the largest and most splendid rooms in Europe. It is difficult to imagine any thing more pleasing than the solicitude which multitudes of beautiful women express concerning dangers that are past, and the heroism of others who wish to accompany me in my second tour. I receive the compliments and congratulations of two or three thousand persons in a day. You must not wonder if I conceive an opinion of my own consequence and become vain. I have been made an honorary member of the Artillery Company, in whose uniform I accompanied Sir James Wright this morning, to lay before his Majesty a short account of my Excursion.

I was received in the most gracious manner. The King took my account; talked to me about five minutes on

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the subject of Aërostation; permitted the usual honour of kissing his hand; and I took my leave.

I have led you, my dear friend, through my apprehensions, difficulties and anxieties, to the completion of almost all my wishes respecting the first attempt I made to place myself on the records of fame.

It has been no small assistance to me that I have ever wished not to dishonour your care, advice and friendship; and it heightens every gratification that I can always subjoin,

I am, your sincere and affectionate friend,  
VINCENT LUNARDI.

*Having wrote several letters, while on my excursion in the atmosphere: I had several inducements to employ myself in that manner. It proved the astonishing evenness and smoothness of the motion; and, by throwing down any information of myself, there was a chance of its falling into the hands of my friends, and relieving their anxiety concerning my safety, and the state of my spirits and mind.*

*I threw down several to the same effect with the following; one of which was very obligingly conveyed to me by —— Carimajor, Esq; who found it, not very far from the mile stone on Northaw Common, while out a shooting. I have collated my own copies written with a pencil; and the following letter is inserted, as an additional proof of the felicity with which I performed the whole voyage*

A D D R E S S E D

To any person or persons who may pick up this letter.

My Dear Friend or Friends.

THE anxiety which my acquaintance shewed at my departure, makes it necessary to assure them, that my situation is, at this moment, the happiest of my life.

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The relief of my mind, and the accomplishment of my purpose, which I now see is practicable in all respects, concur with the temperature of the air, and the magnificence of prospect, to sooth and gratify my mind with the highest delight. The thermometer is at 50°; and I will keep myself in this station till three o'clock, I shall then ascend higher, to try the effect of a different aerial climate, as well as to put my oar to a fair trial,

I beg the person or persons who may take up this letter, to take notice of the time and place, and to convey either the letter or the contents of it to my kind friend and patron, Prince Caramanico, No. 56, in New Bond Street; to Sir Joseph Banks, Soho-Square, or to Doctor Fordyce, Essex-Street, to whom I have many and great obligations, and who may have the goodness to be concerned, if they should soon learn I am cheerful and well.

I am particularly anxious, that the earliest information of me should be given to George Biggin, Esq. Essex-Street, the loss of whose company is the only abatement of my present joy; but I hope for that pleasure another time.

My desire to convey some news of me is from an opinion, that my descent may not be effected immediately, or within the distance of forty or fifty miles. In that case I might not be able to convey them any letter or message in time to save them uneasiness on my account. It is now exactly three o'clock, the air has a mildness and sweetnes I never experienced, and the view before me is heavenly. Happy England! I see reasons to hail thy peculiar felicity!

Farewell,

VINCENT LUNARDI,

APPENDIX.

## A P P E N D I X.

To VINCENT LUNARDI, Esq.

SIR,

I send you this by my servant, that I may learn from yourself what I am extremely anxious to hear, that your health has not suffered by your late fatigues, that your Balloon arrived in London without injury, and at the same time to acquaint you with the further steps I have taken in your business.

Yesterday morning I made to the very spot where your Balloon in its passage touched the ground, and where your cat was landed, and with the assistance of several people who were witnesses, particularly of a person whom you may recollect to have been near the Balloon at the time on horseback, and of the very girl who picked up the cat, have ascertained the place with a sufficient precision. They pointed out the part also where your grapple dragged, and mentioned some other circumstances, the most of which I propose to collect into a formal deposition, and shall attend them again to-day to obtain their more solemn confirmation of the facts.

Yesterday, at my request, five of the harvest-men, mentioned in the deposition of Elizabeth Brett (which you have with you) attended me here, and have in the same formal mode deposed to the time, manner, and place of your last descent, and to the fact of their coming to the assistance of Elizabeth Brett, as stated by her. This deposition shall accompany the other, which I am to take

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to-day,

to-day, and you will make such use of them as you may find necessary. I cannot, however, avoid saying, that admiration and astonishment seem so thoroughly to have taken possession of all ranks of people instead of that incredulity which your friend, Mr. Sheldon, apprehended, that these supplemental proofs are hardly required. If finally they should, however, be thought requisite, it will give me particular pleasure in having procured them. Whatever you may be advised by your Friends in London to give to the public, will, I have no doubt, be well considered. It cannot be detailed in terms too plain and simple. You must be sensible that the *façon de parler* here and in France are extremely different, and that truth has never received advantage from unnecessary ornament. You will recollect too, that the account will be read by thousands, who were not witnesses of the facts. You will make such use of the subjoined memorandum as you think necessary.

Your general course from the spot of your departure, in the Artillery Ground, to that of your first descent, was something more than one point on the compass to the westward of the north, and the general course of your second voyage was three points on the compass to the eastward of the north from the place of your first departure, or something more than four points on the compass to the eastward of the north from the place of your first descent; observe, I speak of your general course, with a reference to the best maps which I have by me. What deviations or traverses you might make from time to time in both voyages, as you certainly must have made many, you will best judge. As a proof of this, you will recollect that the field in which the last letter with the belt

annexed

annexed was found, lies about one mile and a half to the eastward, being a point to the south of the spot where you finally landed: if, therefore, the belt and letter dropped in any thing like a perpendicular direction, the course you took after the dropping of this letter must have been west with a point to the north. I mention this by the bye for your consideration.

With respect to the identical spots on which you made the two descents you may wish to know the literal fact.

That where you made your first descent, that is, where your gallery came to the ground, and where, or near to which, you put out the cat, is a large ploughed field, belonging to John Hunter, Esq. of Gubbins, in the county of Hertford. The field itself is part of the lately inclosed common of North Mimms, in the manor of the Duke of Leeds. The field is about half a mile to the eastward of the fifteen-mile stone, on the road leading from London to Hatfield, and adjoining to the road leading from the said turnpike-road, to the northward on the left. The particular spot in the field is on the east side, very near to the boundary line between the manors of Northaw and North Mimms. For the present a common hedge-stake only marks the spot, but with your leave and the permission of Mr. Hunter, I propose to erect a stone there, with a suitable inscription to record the fact; as I shall likewise do on the spot of your last descent, if, as I have no doubt, I can obtain permission of the proprietor. It is remarkable that the field where you made your first descent is called *Italy*, from the circumstance which attended the late inclosure, of a large quantity of roots, rubbish, &c. having been collected there, and having continued burning for many days. The common people having

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heard of a burning mountain in Italy, gave the field that name. You hardly conceived, when you dropped, that you was so near to any thing that had connexion with Naples.

The place of your final descent is imperfectly described in Elizabeth Brett's deposition, but is in fact as there stated, in the parish of Stondon, about half a mile to the northward of the twenty-four mile stone, on the road that leads from London to Cambridge, through Ware and Puckeridge.

If you wish to have any further conversation with me, on these matters, I can come to London conveniently after Wednesday next, and will attend you with pleasure, if you give me notice.

The inclosed scraps of paper were found in the field where you first descended, near the part where your grapple took up the corn. Whether you threw them from the Balloon you will recollect.

I have no tidings of the two first letters—probably to-day I may hear something of them, as I shall meet many persons assembled from different parts of the country

Adieu,

Most sincerely yours,

W. BAKER.

Bayford, near Hertford, September 18, 1784.

D E P O S I T I O N S

The voluntary declaration and deposition on oath, of NATHANIEL WHITBREAD of Swanley Bar, farmer, in the parish of North Mimms, in the County of Hertford, Yeoman.

THIS Deponent, on his oath, faith, that being on Wednesday the 15th day of September instant, between the hours of three and four in the afternoon, in a certain field called *Etna*, in the parish of North Mimms aforesaid, he perceived a large Machine sailing in the air, near the place where he was on horseback; that the Machine continuing to approach the earth, the part of it in which this Deponent perceived a gentleman standing, came to the ground, and dragged a short way on the ground in a slanting direction; that the time when the Machine thus touched the earth, was, as near as this Deponent could judge, about a quarter before four in the afternoon. That this Deponent being on horseback, and his horse restive, he could not approach nearer to the Machine than about four poles, but that he could plainly perceive therein a gentleman dressed in light coloured cloaths, holding in his hand a trumpet, which had the appearance of silver or bright Tin. That by this time several harvest men coming up from the other part of the field, to the number of twelve men and thirteen women, this Deponent called to them to endeavour to stop the Machine, which the men attempted, but the gentleman in the Machine desiring them to desist, and the Machine moving with considerable rapidity, and clearing the earth, went off in a North direction, and continued in sight at a very great height for near an hour afterwards. And this Deponent further faith, that the part of the Machine in which the gentleman

gentleman stood, did not actually touch the ground for more than half a minute, during which time the gentleman threw out a parcel of what appeared to this deponent as dry sand. That after the Machine had ascended again from the earth, this Deponent perceived a grapple with four hooks, which hung from the bottom of the Machine, dragging along the ground, which carried up with it into the air a small parcel of loose oats, which the women were raking in the field. And this Deponent further on his oath saith, that when the Machine had risen clear from the ground about twenty yards, the gentleman spoke to this deponent and the rest of the people with his trumpet, wishing them good bye, and saying that he should soon go out of sight. And this deponent further on his oath saith, that the Machine in which the gentleman came down to the earth, appeared to consist of two distinct parts connected together by ropes, namely, that in which the gentleman appeared to be, a stage boarded at the bottom, and covered with netting and ropes on the sides, about four feet and a half high, and the other part of the Machine appeared in the shape of an urn, about thirty feet high, and of the same diameter, made of canvas, like oil skin, with green, red, and yellow stripes.

## NATHANIEL WHITBREAD.

*Sworn before me this twentieth  
day of September, 1784.  
WILLIAM BAKER.*

The voluntary declaration and depositions on oath, of WILLIAM HARPER, of the Parish of Hatfield, in the county of Hertford, Labourer, and of MARY BUTTERFIELD, of Parish of North Mimms, in the County of Hertford, Spinster.

THIS Deponent William Harper, on his oath, saith, that as he was mowing oats in a certain field, called Etna, in the Parish of North Mimms, in the County of Hertford; on Wednesday the 15th of this instant September, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, in company with Thomas Blackwell, Thomas Moore, John Richardson, and several others, he perceived a large Machine hovering in the air, and gradually approaching the ground, near the boundary line of the Manors of Northaw and North Mimms; that on his approaching the Machine, in company of the persons aforementioned, the Machine which had then passed the said boundary line, touched the earth in the said field, called Etna. And this Deponent being then at the distance of four or five poles from the same, plainly perceived a gentleman in the lower part of the said Machine, dressed in light coloured cloaths, and a cocked up hat, who, on the Machine touching the ground, threw out a parcel of dust, or white sand; that immediately the Machine mounted again into the air, and went off in a North direction, that while the Machine continued touching the ground, Mr. Nathaniel Whitbread, who was likewise present on horseback, desired this Deponent, and the rest who were present to stop the said Machine, which some of them, and in particular Thomas Blackwell attempted to do, but the gentleman

desiring them not to stop the Machine, they desisted. And this Deponent Mary Butterfield, on her oath, saith, that she was raking oats in the said field called Etna, on Wednesday the 15th of September, instant, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, in company with Mary Crawley, Sarah Day, and others, and perceived a large Machine hovering over Northaw Common, and approaching the earth in the field where this Deponent was at work, which at length it touched in the said field called Etna, and during the time that it so touched the ground, a kitten which was in the lower part of the said Machine, came out on the field, which this Deponent picked up, and soon afterwards sold to a gentleman who came up to the hedge side, enquiring after the Machine, which he called an Air Balloon. That this Deponent plainly perceived a gentleman in the lower part of the Machine, dressed in light coloured cloaths, who, on the Machine ascending again, spoke through his trumpet, and wished them good bye. And these Deponents, William Harper and Mary Butterfield, severally, on their oaths, say that the Machine which came down to the earth, appeared to consist of two parts connected together, namely that in which the gentleman was, appeared to be a frame-work of wood and netting, from which there stuck out a sort of wing, and the other part of the Machine appeared in the shape of a large pear with the stalk downwards, and appeared to be made of silk or canvas, in stripes of green and red; and this Deponent, Mary Butterfield, further, on her oath, saith, that when the Machine was ascending from the ground, she, this Deponent perceived an anchor or grapple drag along

the ground, which took with it a small parcel of the oats from the field, where they were raking.

his

WILLIAM &amp; HARPER.

mark.

her

MARY &amp; BUTTERFIELD.

mark.

*Sworn before me this 20th day of September, 1784.*

The voluntary declaration and deposition on oath of ELIZABETH BRETT, Spinster, servant to Mr. THOMAS READ, farmer, in the parish of Standon, in the county of Herts.

THIS Deponent on her oath faith, that on Wednesday, the 15th day of September, instant, between four and five o'clock in the afternoon, she, this Deponent, being then at work in her master's brew-house, heard an uncommon and loud noise, which, on attending to it, she conceived to be the sound of men singing, as they returned from harvest home. That upon going to the door of the house she perceived a strange large body in the air, and on approaching it in a meadow-field near the house, called Long Mead, she perceived a man in it; that the person in the machine, which she knew not what to make of, but which the person in it called an Air Balloon, called to her to take hold of the rope, which she did accordingly; that John Mills and George Phillips, labourers with said Mr. Thomas Read, came up soon after, and being likewise requested to assist in holding the rope, both made

I 2

their

their excuses, one of them, George Phillips, saying he was too short, and John Mills saying that he did not like it; that this deponent continued to hold the rope till some other harvest men of Mr. Benjamin Robinson, of High Croft came up, by whose assistance the machine was held down till the person got out of the machine; and this Deponent, further on her oath faith, that the person now present, and shewn to her by William Baker, Esq the justice of peace before whom this Deposition is taken, as M. Vincent Lunardi, and in her presence declares himself to be Mr. Vincent Lunardi, was the person who called to me from the Machine, as above stated, and who descended therefrom in the said field, called Long Meadow.

her  
ELIZABETH & BRETT.  
mark.

*Sworn before me this 16th day of September, 1784, at Barford Bury, in the County of Hertford, aforesaid.*

The voluntary declaration and depositions on oath of JONAS LANGTON, JOHN CHIVEN, JAMES CRAMPLAN, EDWARD BENTLEY, WILLIAM WALLER, severally made this 17th day of September, 1784, before WILLIAM BAKER, Esq. one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Hertford.

THE said Deponents, on their oath, severally declare, that on the 15th of this instant, September, between four and five o'clock in the afternoon, being then at work, some of them in the harvest fields, and others in the farm-

farm-yard of Messrs. Benjamin Robinson and James Snow, in the parish of Standon, in the county of Hertford, they saw a large and uncommon Machine hovering in the air, which they severally followed till it arrived at a certain mead, called Long Mead, in the occupation of Thomas Read, yeoman, of Standon aforesaid, where the same touched the ground, and on their severally arriving at the same place, they found Elizabeth Brett, Spinster, maid servant with Thomas Read aforesaid, holding a rope which was fixed to the said Machine; that on their severally approaching the said Machine, they perceived a gentleman in one part of it, who desired them to assist Elizabeth Brett the servant, who was then holding the rope, which they did accordingly; that by this assistance the Machine being stopped, the gentleman who was in it came out, and to these Deponents declared, that he had set out from the Artillery Ground in London, a little before two o'clock, in the afternoon of the said day, in the Machine, and had travelled through the air to the place where they found him.

*Sworn before me, this 17th day of September, 1784, at Barford Bury, in the county of Hertford.*

*A Gentleman well known in the Literary World having sent Mr. LUNARDI the following Epistle as a compliment to his Genius and enterprizing Spirit, Mr. LUNARDI's Friends have strongly expressed their wishes to have it annexed to these Letters, and the Author has obligingly given permission to have it printed with them.*

## A N E P I S T L E

T O

S I G. VINCENZO LUNARDI.

EXCUSE it, bold Youth, if a stranger should dare To address thus *Your Highness* as KING of the AIR, For I was a witness, a charmed one, I own, When you sprung to the skies, and ascended your throne Amid two hundred thousand good people assembled, Who felt for your fame, for your safety too trembled; Whilst you, a true HERO, of nothing afraid Took leave of the world, and mankind, undismay'd; Determin'd to bid every danger defiance For the noblest of conquests, the conquest of SCIENCE,

When you bid us adieu, and first quitted the earth, To what varied sentiments gave you quick birth? Each mind was brim full of unnumber'd strange notions, Each eye all attention, to watch all your motions.

*A Gen-*

The

The multitude scarcely believ'd that a man  
With his senses about him could form such a plan,  
And thought that as BEDLAM was so very nigh  
You had better been there, than turned loose in the sky !  
But when they perceiv'd you rose higher and higher,  
O'ertop'd every building, each church, and each spire,  
They extoll'd with one voice your superlative merit,  
Who could hazard your life with so dauntless a spirit,  
With benevolent wishes each bosom now burns,  
And *Awe* and *Amazement* both fill it by turns.—  
“ Where's he going ? ” cries one,—“ Why he shrinks from  
[our flight ! ]  
“ And wher's this poor fellow to quarter to night ?  
“ If he soars at this rate in his silken balloon,  
“ He'll surely by Sunset be up with the Moon ! ”  
Whilst God save his *Soul*, was the prayer of most,  
As they took it for granted your *Body* was lost—  
The lovers of science who best of all knew  
How much might be hop'd from a Genius like you,  
In silence purs'd you, unwilling to speak,  
For the tear of anxiety stole down their cheek.—  
In their own way of thinking, all felt, and all reason'd,  
Greedy ALDERMEN judg'd that your flight was ill season'd,  
That you'd better have taken a *good dinner* first,  
Nor have pinch'd your poor stomach by hunger, or thirst.  
In perfect indiff'rence the BEAU yawn'd a blessing,  
And fear'd before night that your hair would want dressing:  
But the LADIES, all zeal, sent their wishes in air,  
For a man of such spirit is ever their care !

ATTORNEYS

ATTORNEYS were puzzled how now they could sue you,  
UNDERWRITERS what premium they'd now take to *Do you*,  
Whilst the fallow-fac'd Jew of *his Monies* so fond  
Thank'd Mofes, he never had *taken your Bond*.

Amid these sensations which mov'd us below  
Through the realms of pure Ether triumphant you go,  
A course which no mortal had here before dar'd ;  
For *You*, was the risk, and the glory prepar'd ;  
Though depriv'd of that FRIEND who had urg'd the fond claim  
To partake all your dangers, and share in your fame,  
From all human aid though cut off, and alone,  
When mounting thus singly, you still greater shone ! —

Ah ! tell me LUNARDI,—hereafter you may !  
What new scenes of wonder your flight must display ?  
How awful the feel, when through new regions gliding,  
Through currents untry'd, and from cloud to cloud sliding ?  
With what new ideas your mind must o'erflow !  
With what new sensations your bosom must glow ! —  
How little, how trifling, must then in your eyes  
Have seem'd what *below* we look up to, and prize !  
No more than a molehill, the TOWER's old walls,  
A Hop-pole the MONUMENT,—Bandbox, ST. PAULS.

The vast host of people you quitted so lately,  
Which spread to each present a scene the most stately,  
To one who so distant on all of us gazes  
Must look like a meadow embroider'd with daisies ;

Nay,

Nay, e'en this GREAT CITY we all hold so dear  
As a HONEY-COMB only to you would appear,  
All it's SHIPPING mere spots, though its bulwark and pride,  
The BANK and the TREASURY hardly deserv'd,  
The abodes of the Great not discern'd e'en with winking,  
And the THAMES but a basin for lap-dogs to drink in.—  
'Tis the points whence we view things which fix, or create  
Our imperfect conceptions of Little, or Great ! —

An adventurous stripling, so sweet OVID sings,  
Had the boldness to soar once on two mighty wings,  
Unguided by judgment, and wand'ring too high,  
He met his just fate, and was plung'd from the sky,  
And all that the world from this tale have been able  
To learn, was, it gave false Ambition a fable.—  
But from flights such as yours we've reason to hope  
Philosophy one day may gain wider scope,  
The secrets of nature are slowly reveal'd,  
Though much is discover'd, far more is concealed.—  
A spirit like yours can assist best the cause  
And more clearly illustrate her motions and laws ;  
But should not to you the great lot be afflig'd  
To establish new doctrines of air or of wind,  
Should future Adventurers still further rove,  
And pursuing your course, your discov'ries improve,  
Yet know, GALLANT YOUTH, that to none but to *You*  
Will in ENGLAND the praise, and the triumph be due,  
In the FIRST bold attempt so intrepid who shone,  
And show'd by Example how much could be done.

K

OUR

Our country will gratefully boast of your name,  
And LUNARDI be plac'd on the bright scroll of fame,  
With the warmest acclaims of the PUBLIC applauded,  
By PHILOSOPHERS lov'd—By the MUSE too recorded ! —

Amidst all these honors, a stranger who fir'd  
By what he beheld, what yourself have inspir'd,  
Round your temples while this little tribute he wreaths,  
Thus with zeal his fond wishes prophetick he breathes,  
Long enjoy TH' AERIAL THRONE you now sit on !  
And live, ah ! long live,—THE COLUMBUS OF BRITAIN !

*Explanation of the Plate of the Balloon.*

- 1 Crown, to which the Rope was fastened
- 2 Net-work
- 3 Ropes, forty-five in Number, a Rope every four Meshes
- 4 } Nooks, through which the Atmospheric Air was con-
- 5 }veyed into the Balloon, when exhibited at the Lyceum
- 6 Wheel, to which all the Ropes were fastened
- 7 Ropes, which fasten the Gallery to the Wheel
- 8 } Oars, by means of which I could keep the Balloon at a
- 9 } certain Level, and descend without loosing Inflammable Air for that Purpose
- 10 Gallery
- 11 Grapple, or Anchor, to secure it when it touched the ground
- 12 English Flag, which I threw down, to affuse the incredulous, that there was an Individual in the Gallery
- 13 Cat, Dog, and a Pidgeon

*Explanation of the Apparatus.*

- 1 Net
- 2 Balloon
- 3 Crown to suspend the Balloon
- 4 Barrels of Zinc
- 5 Oil of Vitriol
- 6 Backs, in which the Water and Oil of Vitriol was mixed
- 7 Recipient of Oil of Vitriol and Water
- 8 Pipes, which contain Zinc, Water, and Oil of Vitriol
- 9 Recipient of the Inflammable Air, full of Soap Lees
- 10 Recipient for the Residuals
- 11 Pipes full of Water
- 12 } Blocks to raise the Balloon
- 13 } Blocks to suspend the Stilliards to weigh the Balloon, Gallery, Machinery, &c
- 14 Blocks to support the lower Part of the Balloon
- 15 Flasks of Vitriol
- 16 A Stage to support the lower Part of the Balloon
- 17 Tube, which conveys the Inflammable Air into the Balloon



LUNARDI.



MR. VINCENT LUNARDI.



VINCENT LUNARDI ESQ.

Published Sept. 20 1784 by John Walker.

Though Mr. Lunardi has announced his ascention, with his Balloon, for this day, in the Artillery Ground, yet it is not impossible, from the present very sudden change in the weather, that he may be obliged to put off his departure to some future day. In this case the disappointment the public may meet is not to be attributed to him, but to the levity of his mother Luna, who made her appearance anew yesterday evening; and all that can be said of the Sieur Lunardi, even in case of a failure, will be, that he has been *Moonstruck*.

15 Sept. 1784

### 15 Sept. FLIGHT IN AN AIR-BALLOON. 1784

This day at noon, it is suspected Mons. Lunardi means to eclipse the sun! An English gentleman goes aloft in company with him, in the character of the *Man in the Moon!* After this adventurous pair have passed the atmospheric limits, it is imagined they mean to have a boxing-bout with *Caffo and Pollux*, and to drive them from their situation among the constellations, which place they mean to assume!

They mean to take only a sack of flour and a few bottles of rum with them, by way of provisions; the flour will be made into cakes, as they pass through the rain clouds, which will be baked in the sun; the first fine day afterwards, they will of course catch wild fowl enough on their passage to supply their table; and in regard to their store rum, it is only necessary to fasten a noose to the tail of the balloon, and they will never be in want of grog!

As all the town are mad after the flight, Monsieur Lunardi has fixed upon the artillery ground as the spot most contiguous to Bedlam!

Friday, Sept. 17.

L O N D O N .

#### Further Particulars respecting Mr. LUNARDI's Aerial Excursion.

THE state of uncertainty in which the Public continued on Wednesday, and the greatest part of yesterday, respecting the termination of Mr. Lunardi's tour through the unexplored element of air, was relieved by an express which the Prince Caramanico received yesterday evening from that spirited adventurer; it was dated at Ware, in Hertfordshire, and contained advice of his having descended a little past five o'clock on Wednesday evening, at a place called Collier's-end, about four miles from Ware. His excursion was of the duration of three hours and a quarter, being the period which he proposed continuing afloat, although he had gaz enough to have kept his balloon suspended for three days. It is computed that his course was at the rate of eight miles an hour, and that at times he was at an elevation of full three miles from the earth. He took with him a quadrant, thermometer, barometer, and an optical instrument, for the purpose of making observations.

Notwithstanding this philosophical adventurer went, in point of distance, only 26 miles from London, he made a much longer traverse through the aerial region, and computes, that had he gone in a straight line, he would have been above 70 or 80 miles from the place of his departure.

He experienced, in the different regions of air through which he passed, a variety of climates; sometimes the cold was so intense, as to freeze the water he took with him; he did not feel any inconvenience from heat, after his first ascent, at which time he was very warm. He appeared much fatigued, but declared, that was more owing to his exertions in preparing his machine before he went up, than to his exercise in regulating it afterwards. His course from the Artillery-ground was westerly, till he came nearly over Bedford-house; after which, ascending in a higher current of air, he steered due North. Besides the chickens he took up with him, he was also provided with some ham, and three bottles of white wine; but did not take any refreshment, during his airy voyage, save a few glasses of wine.

The extreme coldness of the atmosphere caused in him, as it always does, an almost invincible inclination to sleep; and this cooperated with other circumstances to induce Mr. Lunardi to conclude his journey where he did. He had been twice before near touching the ground; first at Hornsey, and again near Hatfield, and at one time was so close to the earth, as to speak with a trumpet to the wondering spectators under him. At Northaw, he descended so low as to converse with a villager, a servant of Mr. Strong's, who was digging gravel. He there threw out his cat, which had accompanied him, and it was taken up alive by an inhabitant. As Mr. Lunardi approached the earth (the time before he landed), the country people shewed great marks of terror; and from their dread, for some time, he was apprehensive of dangerous consequences. By throwing out, however, a

large quantity of his ballast, he mounted again to a height much beyond what he had before attained. Here the cold became so intense, that the dense vapour which had adhered to his clothes in the lower regions, froze into icicles, and a little water which he poured into an open vessel froze in a minute or two. He warmed himself, in this situation, by drinking a few glasses of wine. In this high station he met with a fresh current of wind, which directed him more to the West, and again, when he descended, he recovered his second wind, and pursued the northerly course. Night was coming on fast, and he descended about four miles beyond Ware. He sailed along the surface of the earth for a considerable space, and in a convenient field, at a place called Collier's end, he threw out his grapping iron, and by means of a tree, which served as an anchorage, he came gently to the ground. A young woman in the field assisted in holding the machine down, while he alighted and secured it to its anchorage. At first she seemed to be much frightened, but on Mr. Lunardi assuring her there was no danger, and explaining, as well as he could, his situation, and the nature of his journey, she readily gave her assistance. On the balloon first reaching the ground, it rolled about some time, and drew the gallery after it, which drove Mr. Lunardi against a tree, but he fortunately received no damage. A considerable quantity of ice was found upon the gallery, though not far from a state of dissolution.

A few minutes after Mr. Lunardi alighted, a number of country people hastened round him, together with many of the Gentlemen of the country, among whom was William Baker, Esq; late Member for Hertford, in whose company he proceeded, amidst the acclamations of the people, to Ware, where he dined at the Bull Inn, with a number of the most respectable Gentlemen in the county, who vied with each other in testifying every mark of attention and regard to the philosophic hero. Mr. Lunardi seemed to be in perfect spirits, though from the intense cold and fatigue, he complained of an aching in his back. He had undergone an immense labour, for, independent of the exercise in the air, he had been up the greatest part of three nights previous to his experiment. He informed the company, that he was engaged very much in working his oars, and at one time felt himself exceedingly cold, and confirmed the account of the water he took with him being frozen; the dog and cat that accompanied him fell asleep, he said, which he likewise at that period was inclined to, and the cat's breath afterwards appearing to be nearly exhausted, he threw it out of the gallery. During the voyage he drank in all twelve glasses of wine. When

September 23, 1784.

#### LUNARDI'S AERIAL NAVIGATION.

To combat the prejudices of a nation, and the incredulity of mankind, especially when deterred by examples of resentment in consequence of deception or misfortune; when awed by the danger incurred in experiment, and the uncertainty of success in the project, must certainly require the greatest effort of human resolution to encounter. Whilst we were recollecting the occasion, which collected at least one tenth of the inhabitants of the metropolis within the optical powers of an individual, we could not help indulging ourselves in these eccentric reflections.

The aerial voyage, which has long been proposed by Mr. Lunardi, was appointed for yesterday, and perhaps the English nation never witnessed, upon any former occasion, such a number of persons being collected together as were to be seen within the environs of Moorfields; not a plain or an eminence, a window or a roof, a chimney or a steeple, within the sight of Bedlam, but what was populous thronged.

About half past one o'clock the Prince of Wales arrived in the Artillery Ground, viewed the apparatus of the balloon, and retired to the Artillery house, which was principally occupied by his suite, and the persons who had liberally paid the adventurer for their admission. We were sorry indeed to observe that such general advantages had been taken by the neighbourhood, of crowding their windows, and for benefits which were due only to the novelty and spirit of the enterprise; we were the more sorry, as the ground, which should have been liberally offered, was, under a false idea of generosity, on the present occasion, most unhandsomely rented.

The operation of filling the balloon was carried on under the inspection of Dr. Geo. Fordyce, during the whole of the preceding night. The materials of the rarefied air were zinc, oil of vitriol, and steel shavings.

About a quarter before two o'clock the balloon was sufficiently filled and closed, and the gallery and other apparatus prepared to be suspended; but on Mr. Lunardi, and his intended companion, Mr. Biggins, a young gentleman of fortune and enterprise, taking their situations, and finding the machine unequal to their weight, it was determined that Mr. Lunardi should ascend alone. A cannon having been fired as a preparatory signal, Mr. Lunardi embraced his friends, and all matters being adjusted, a second cannon was fired as the signal of ascension. Insensible must that heart be

which was not at that moment interested for his fate. About five minutes after two, the machine was launched; and after mounting about twelve yards, it descended. Mr. Lunardi took his seat in the gallery with great composure, but finding himself too equally poised, he discharged a part of the ballast, which consisted of small bags of white dry sand, and by that means relieved his weight, and caused a regular and most beautiful ascension.

After he had cleared the buildings, subject to the direction of an easterly wind, he saluted the spectators with great elegance and gallantry, by waving a blue flag, which he had taken for that purpose, and seemingly bade them a friendly adieu. The gallery was formed of an upright four feet square, and netted with a strong cord, breast-high, but quite open at the top. After this salutation for the space of five minutes, he dropped his flag with an air of security, and having scolded himself, took to his oars; but soon after one of them came down, which alarmed his friends for the consequence. Steering at this moment due west, he suddenly tacked towards the north, and with little variation of altitude. Until by degrees he had established that direction, his progress seemed exceedingly elevated and swift, tho' the balloon appeared to be under masterly management. We viewed this object, nevertheless, distinctly for one hour and twenty minutes, with a mixture of anxiety and delight.

Mr. Lunardi afterwards lowered himself towards the earth near Barnet, but not liking the situation, and having the command of his machine, he discharged a part of his ballast, and pursued his course until he arrived over Collier's Hill, in Hertfordshire, at 25 minutes past four o'clock, where he alighted. His companions in this adventurous voyage were a dog and a cat. Mr. Lunardi was not a little affected by the difference of climates thro' which he passed, as may be readily conceived by those who are told that icicles were hanging on his clothes when he descended.

The Reverend Mr. Douglas, of Little Stanhope-street, followed Mr. Lunardi on horseback as far as Northaw Common, near Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, about eighteen miles from the metropolis. Mr. Lunardi seemed perfectly collected and composed, and appeared to be a complete master of his wonderful machine. He was observed by the above Gentleman to make use of his oars, and descended about half past four o'clock within eighty feet of the ground, moved to the left, and then ascending, took a turn towards Cambridge. It is somewhat singular, that among the great and numerous crowd of spectators that attended the letting off of the above machine, the Rev. Mr. Douglas, and Mr. Churchill, the Prince of Wales's Equerry, were observed to be the only persons that followed Mr. Lunardi from town.

His Majesty viewed the balloon through a telescope from the Queen's presence chamber.

The Duke and Duchess of Richmond, in company with Mr. Pitt, occupied an apartment at the floor-cloth manufactory, in the City Road, to see Mr. Lunardi's ascent, for which accommodation, it is said, the sum of fifty guineas was paid!

Mr. Fox, Col. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Burke, Lord North, Col. North, and a number of the nobility and persons of fashion, male and female, were on the ground, or in the surrounding houses.

Dr. Franklin some time since decided on the impracticability of governing the aérostatique globe by oars.—A ship has two mediums, water and wind, to act against each other; the balloon has but one; and the attempt to direct them by winged oars, that philosopher thought would be equally weak with opposing the wind of a lady's fan to a barge rapidly carried down the tide.

The Publick are so satisfied with Mr. Lunardi's noble machine, exhibited yesterday, and the uncommon pains he and his friends took to prevent their becoming disappointed, that there is not a doubt but he will meet with a liberal reward from the generosity of Englishmen, either by a publick subscription among the connoisseurs, or some other more delicate way of testifying their approbation.

### 24 Sept. P A N T H E O N. 1784

#### The EXHIBITION of Mr. LUNARDI'S BALLOON.

IS opened at the PANTHÉON, where it is to be seen in the exact state it was in when Mr. Lunardi descended at Collier's Hill near Ware in Hertfordshire; and as every circumstance, though ever so trifling on minute, is interesting, when connected with a great and important adventure, the curious will be gratified with the sight of the two little animals, (a cat and dog) which shared with him the dangers of that hazardous and uncommon voyage. Mr. Lunardi will attend personally, as much as his business and occupations will permit, for the satisfaction of those who may wish to see and converse with him.

Admittance to the Pantheon, One Shilling.

The Publick are likewise informed, that in compliance with the general wish of people of the first rank and fortune at the West end of the metropolis, as well as the most respectable Merchants and individuals in the City, that a SUBSCRIPTION should be opened for Mr. LUNARDI, not only as a testimony of their approbation of his merit, but to defray the expences of his first voyage, and make amends for the advantages taken by the neighbourhood of the Artillery Ground on the day of his ascent; that Subscriptions are accordingly opened at the following places, viz. New Bond's Coffee-house; Brooke's and White's, St. James's Street; Debrett and Stockdale's, Booksellers, Piccadilly; the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill; the Parliament-street Coffee-house; and at the Pantheon.—All Letters, Messages, &c. intended for Mr. Lunardi are to be left at his house, No. 6, Pallad-street, or at the Pantheon.

Though Mr. Lunardi has announced his ascent, with his Balloon, for this day, in the Artillery Ground, yet it is not impossible, from the present very sudden change in the weather, that he may be obliged to put off his departure to some future day. In this case the disappointment the public may meet is not to be attributed to him, but to the levity of his mother Luna, who made her appearance anew yesterday evening; and all that can be said of the Sieur Lunardi, even in case of a failure, will be, that he has been *Moonstruck*.

15 Sept. 1784

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L O N D O N .

#### Further Particulars respecting Mr. LUNARDI's Aerial Excursion.

THE state of uncertainty in which the Public continued on Wednesday, and the greatest part of yesterday, respecting the termination of Mr. Lunardi's tour through the unexplored element of air, was relieved by an express which the Prince Caramanico received yesterday evening from that spirited adventurer; it was dated at Ware, in Hertfordshire, and contained advice of his having descended a little past five o'clock on Wednesday evening, at a place called Collier's-end, about four miles from Ware. His excursion was of the duration of three hours and a quarter, being the period which he proposed continuing aloft, although he had gas enough to have kept his balloon suspended for three days. It is computed that his course was at the rate of eight miles an hour, and that at times he was at an elevation of full three miles from the earth. He took with him a quadrant, thermometer, barometer, and an optical instrument, for the purpose of making observations.

Notwithstanding this philosophical adventurer went, in point of distance, only 26 miles from London, he made a much longer traverse through the aerial region, and computes, that had he gone in a strait line, he would have been above 70 or 80 miles from the place of his departure.

He experienced, in the different regions of air through which he passed, a variety of climates; sometimes the cold was so intense, as to freeze the water he took with him; he did not feel any inconvenience from heat, after his first ascent, at which time he was very warm. He appeared much fatigued, but declared, that was more owing to his exertions in preparing his machine before he went up, than to his exercise in regulating it afterwards. His course from the Artillery-ground was westerly, till he came nearly over Bedfords-house; after which, ascending in a higher current of air, he steered due North. Besides the chickens he took up with him, he was also provided with some ham, and three bottles of white wine; but did not take any refreshment, during his airy voyage, save a few glasses of wine.

The extreme coldness of the atmosphere caused in him, as it always does, an almost invincible inclination to sleep; and this co-operated with other circumstances to induce Mr. Lunardi to conclude his journey where he did. He had been twice before near touching the ground; first at Hornsey, and again near Hatfield, and at one time was so close to the earth, as to speak with a trumpet to the wondering spectators under him. At Northaw, he descended so low as to converse with a villager, a servant of Mr. Strong's, who was digging gravel. He there threw out his cat, which had accompanied him, and it was taken up alive by an inhabitant. As Mr. Lunardi approached the earth (the time before he landed), the country people shewed great marks of terror; and from their dread, for some time, he was apprehensive of dangerous consequences. By throwing out, however, a

large quantity of his ballast, he mounted again to a height much beyond what he had before attained. Here the cold became so intense, that the dense vapour which had adhered to his clothes in the lower regions, froze into icicles, and a little water which he poured into an open vessel froze in a minute or two. He warmed himself, in this situation, by drinking a few glasses of wine. In this high station he met with a fresh current of wind, which directed him more to the West, and again, when he descended, he recovered his second wind, and pursued the northerly course. Night was coming on fast, and he descended about four miles beyond Ware. He sailed along the surface of the earth for considerable space, and in a convenient field, at a place called Collier's end, he threw out his grapping iron, and by means of a tree, which served as an anchorage, he came gently to the ground. A young woman in the field assisted in holding the machine down, while he alighted and secured it to its anchorage. At first she seemed to be much frightened, but on Mr. Lunardi assuring her there was no danger, and explaining, as well as he could, his situation, and the nature of his journey, she readily gave her assistance. On the balloon first reaching the ground, it rolled about some time, and drew the gallery after it, which drove Mr. Lunardi against a tree, but he fortunately received no damage. A considerable quantity of ice was found upon the gallery, though not far from a state of dissolution.

A few minutes after Mr. Lunardi alighted, a number of country people hastened round him, together with many of the Gentlemen of the country, among whom was William Baker, Esq; late Member for Hertford, in whose company he proceeded, amidst the acclamations of the people, to Ware, where he dined at the Bull Inn, with a number of the most respectable Gentlemen in the county, who vied with each other in testifying every mark of attention and regard to the philosophic hero. Mr. Lunardi seemed to be in perfect spirits, though from the intense cold and fatigue, he complained of an aching in his back. He had undergone an immense labour, for, independent of the exercise in the air, he had been up the greatest part of three nights previous to his experiment. He informed the company, that he was engaged very much in working his oar, and at one time felt himself exceedingly cold, and confirmed the account of the water he took with him being frozen; the dog and cat that accompanied him fell asleep, he said, which he likewise at that period was inclined to, and the cat's breath afterwards appearing to be nearly exhausted, he threw it out of the gallery. During the voyage he drank in all twelve glasses of wine. When the balloon was at fifty degrees, he said, he was charmed and delighted with the prospect he had before him. After dinner Mr. Lunardi set off for Mr. Baker's seat, near Hartingfordbury, where he passed the night. The balloon received no damage, and was last night conveyed to town, in a caravan of Mr. Baker's, and deposited in the care of Dr. Fordyce, in Essex-street.

What does the greatest honour to Mr. Lunardi for his ingenuity and intrepid conduct is, that he had no knowledge whatever of the management of an aerostatic machine, except what he derived from theory, never having been in France, or seen any person go up before him.

September 23, 1784.

LUNARDI'S AERIAL NAVIGATION.  
To combat the prejudices of a nation, and the incredulity of mankind, especially when deterred by examples of resentment in consequence of deception or misfortune; when awed by the danger incurred in experiment, and the uncertainty of success in the project, must certainly require the greatest effort of human resolution to encounter. Whilst we were recollecting the occasion, which collected at least one tenth of the inhabitants of the metropolis within the optical powers of an individual, we could not help indulging ourselves in these eccentric reflections.

The aerial voyage, which has long been proposed by Mr. Lunardi, was appointed for yesterday, and perhaps the English nation never witnessed, upon any former occasion, such a number of persons being collected together as were to be seen within the environs of Moorfields; not a plain or an eminence, a window or a roof, a chimney or a steeple, within the sight of Bedlam, but what was populous thronged.

About half past one o'clock the Prince of Wales arrived in the Artillery Ground, viewed the apparatus of the balloon, and retired to the Artillery house, which was principally occupied by his suite, and the persons who had liberally paid the adventurer for their admission. We were sorry indeed to observe that such general advantages had been taken by the neighbourhood of farming their windows, and for benefits which were due only to the novelty and spirit of the enterprise; we were the more sorry, as the ground, which should have been liberally offered, was, under a false idea of generosity, on the present occasion, most unhandily rented.

The operation of filling the balloon was carried on under the inspection of Dr. Geo. Fordyce, during the whole of the preceding night. The materials of the rarefied air were zinc, oil of vitriol, and steel shavings.

About a quarter before two o'clock the balloon was sufficiently filled and closed, and the gallery and other apparatus prepared to be suspended; but on Mr. Lunardi, and his intended companion, Mr. Biggins, a young gentleman of fortune and enterprise, taking their situations, and finding the machine unequal to their weight, it was determined that Mr. Lunardi should ascend alone. A cannon having been fired as a preparatory signal, Mr. Lunardi embraced his friends, and all matters being adjusted, a second cannon was fired as the signal of ascension. Infensible must that heart be which was not at that moment interested for his fate. About five minutes after two, the machine was launched; and after mounting about twelve yards, it descended. Mr. Lunardi took his seat in the gallery with great composure, but finding himself too equally poised, he discharged a part of the ballast, which consisted of small bags of white dry sand, and by that means relieved his weight, and caused a regular and most beautiful ascension. After he had cleared the buildings, subject to the direction of an easterly wind, he saluted the spectators with great elegance and gallantry, by waving a blue flag, which he had taken for that purpose, and seemingly bade them a friendly adieu. The gallery was formed of an upright four feet square, and netted with a strong cord, breast-high, but quite open at the top. After this salutation for the space of five minutes, he dropped his flag with an air of security, and having seated himself, took to his oars; but soon after one of them came down, which alarmed his friends for the consequence. Steering at this moment due west, he suddenly tacked towards the north, and with little variation of altitude. Until by degrees he had established that direction, his progress seemed exceedingly elevated and swift, tho' the balloon appeared to be under masterly management. We viewed this object, nevertheless, distinctly for one hour and twenty minutes, with a mixture of anxiety and delight. Mr. Lunardi afterwards lowered himself towards the earth near Barnet, but not liking the situation, and having the command of his machine, he discharged a part of his ballast, and pursued his course until he arrived over Collier's Hill, in Hertfordshire, at 25 minutes past four o'clock, where he alighted. His companions in this adventurous voyage were a dog and a cat. Mr. Lunardi was not a little affected by the difference of climates thro' which he passed, as may be readily conceived by those who are told that icicles were hanging on his clothes when he descended.

The Reverend Mr. Douglas, of Little Stanhope-street, followed Mr. Lunardi on horseback as far as Northaw Common, near Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, about eighteen miles from the metropolis. Mr. Lunardi seemed perfectly collected and composed, and appeared to be a complete master of his wonderful machine. He was observed by the above Gentleman to make use of his oar, and descended about half past four o'clock within eighty feet of the ground, moved to the left, and then ascending, took a turn towards Cambridge. It is somewhat singular, that among the great and numerous crowd of spectators that attended the letting off of the above machine, the Rev. Mr. Douglas, and Mr. Churchill, the Prince of Wales's Equerry, were observed to be the only persons that followed Mr. Lunardi from town.

His Majesty viewed the balloon through a telescope from the Queen's presence chamber.

The Duke and Duchess of Richmond, in company with Mr. Pitt, occupied an apartment at the floor-cloth manufactory, in the City Road, to see Mr. Lunardi's ascent, for which accommodation, it is said, the sum of fifty guineas was paid!

Mr. Fox, Col. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Burke, Lord North, Col. North, and a number of the nobility and persons of fashion, male and female, were on the ground, or in the surrounding houses.

Dr. Franklin some time since decided on the impracticability of governing the *aerostatique globe* by oars.—A ship has two mediums, water and wind, to act against each other; the balloon has but one; and the attempt to direct them by winged oars, that philosopher thought would be equally weak with opposing the wind of a lady's fan to a barge rapidly carried down the tide.

The Publick are so satisfied with Mr. Lunardi's noble machine, exhibited yesterday, and the uncommon pains he and his friends took to prevent their being disappointed, that there is not a doubt but he will meet with a liberal reward from the generosity of Englishmen, either by a publick subscription among the connoisseurs, or some other more delicate way of testifying their approbation.

### 24 Sept. P A N T H E O N. 1784.

#### The EXHIBITION of Mr. LUNARDI'S BALLOON.

IS opened at the PANTHEON, where it is to be seen in the exact state it was in when Mr. Lunardi descended at Collier's Hill near Ware in Hertfordshire; and as every circumstance, though ever so trifling or minute, is interesting, when connected with a great and important adventure, the curious will be gratified with the sight of the two little animals, (a cat and dog) which shared with him the dangers of that hazardous and uncommon voyage. Mr. Lunardi will attend personally, as much as his business and occupations will permit, for the satisfaction of those who may wish to see and converse with him.

Admittance to the Pantheon, One Shilling.

The Publick are likewise informed, that in compliance with the general wish of people of the first rank and fortune at the West end of the metropolis, as well as the most respectable Merchants and individuals in the City, that a SUBSCRIPTION should be opened for Mr. Lunardi, not only as a testimony of their approbation of his merit, but to defray the expences of his first voyage, and make amends for the advantages taken by the neighbourhood of the Artillery Ground on the day of his ascent, that Subscriptions are accordingly opened at the following places, viz. New Bond's Coffee-house; Brooke's and White's, St. James's street; Debrett and Stockdale's, Book-sellers, Pall-mall; the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill; the Parliament-street Coffee-house; and at the Pantheon.—All Letters, Messages, &c. intended for Mr. Lunardi are to be left at his house, No. 6, Poland-street; or at the Pantheon.

ACCOUNT of Mr. LUNARDI's Aërial Voyage, on Wednesday,  
September 15, 1784.

MR. LUNARDI having been appointed of the use of the gardens at Chelsea Hospital, had for some time announced to the public his intention of ascending from the Artillery Ground, in his Aërostatic Machine. Accordingly, on the day appointed, a vast concourse of people, supposed to be upwards of 150,000, were assembled in Moor-fields, and all the adjacent places; and temporary scaffolds were erected in Bunhill Row

Mr. Lunardi's conduct yesterday discovered the utmost degree of intrepidity, and a noble spirit of adventure that cannot be sufficiently applauded. If this enterprising foreigner had been at all fearful of making the hazardous experiment, he might have preferred his reputation, and have descended in safety just after the Balloon was launched; when after rising to about the height of an house, it rapidly lowered and appeared as if it would touch the ground: instead however of taking the advantage of what would universally have been deemed a defect in the filling to secure himself, with a careless activity that displayed a zeal only for the honour of the Balloon, and an utter indifference to his personal safety, he exerted himself to remove the ballast, in order to overcome the pressure of the external air, and proudly soared into the unknown regions of the sky, with all the calmness of the philosopher, and the resolution of an hero. The immense multitude who attended this sublime spectacle, conducted themselves with the most respectful decorum, and manifested an enthusiasm in his favour, and a solicitude for his safety, that do honour to the character of Englishmen. One cannot but lament that Mr. Biggin, who eagerly panted to share with this spirited foreigner the aerial honours, should have been disappointed upon this occasion, as his zeal for science, and ardour of enterprise, would doubtless have emulated the noble fortitude of Mr. Lunardi, and their mutual observations would probably have furnished a more ample description of this courageous expedition; but as the Balloon would absolutely raise only one person, Mr. Biggin was of necessity prevented from indulging his inclination and scientific curiosity. 17 Sept. 1784.

The place where Mr. Lunardi descended was a kind of inclosure; he passed very nearly over several hedge-rows full of trees, and in the last field very narrowly escaped a rugged stump of a tree, which might have done him great mischief, as the balloon was unmanageable: it rebounded several times from the earth with great force and broke the gallery, beside bending the trumpet. Sept. 20. 1784

Mr. Lunardi is a young gentleman of good family at Naples: being a younger son, he had little more to encounter the world with, than a very liberal education, a good person, and an enlightened mind. He was sent in the early part of his life to the East Indies, where he remained some time without benefiting from the plunder practised in the East. On his return, being of an enterprising and philosophical turn of mind, he was selected from his countrymen as Second Secretary to Prince Carrimanico, the Neapolitan Ambassador. Some time after their arrival in England, the Prince honoured Mr. Lunardi with his confidence and appointment, as principal Secretary to the Embassy; in which capacity he remained until the Prince was recalled to his appointment at a different Court. The separation was reluctantly complied with, but could not be prevented without a violation of that honour which Mr. Lunardi had ever supported. Having fixed his mind on the aerial excursion, and pledged his faith to the public, in London, for the performance, he resisted the impulse of friendship and interest.

The mortification which evidently struck Mr. Biggin in descending from the machine, after a rise of five foot, was so great, that his subsequent calm, and steady coolness, in assailing his friend and anxiety for his safety, was the subject of general admiration at the time, and of subsequent conversation. The collected magnanimity of his conduct shewed signs of the most spirited generosity. The Prince complimented Mr. B. on this resolution, and he replied with the true elegy of classic knowledge, that Scipio was more celebrated for his continence, than Hannibal for all his virtues. It is to be regretted, that this failure has occasioned the loss of that gentleman's observations.

The folly-balloon received its coup-de-grace yesterday, and gave up the ghost in a blaze, between four and five o'clock in the evening. A great number of people were admitted into the gardens, and it was highly diverting to see some with long, others with grinning faces leave the ground, each bearing some reliefs of the balloon defunct. Sic transit gloria mundi.

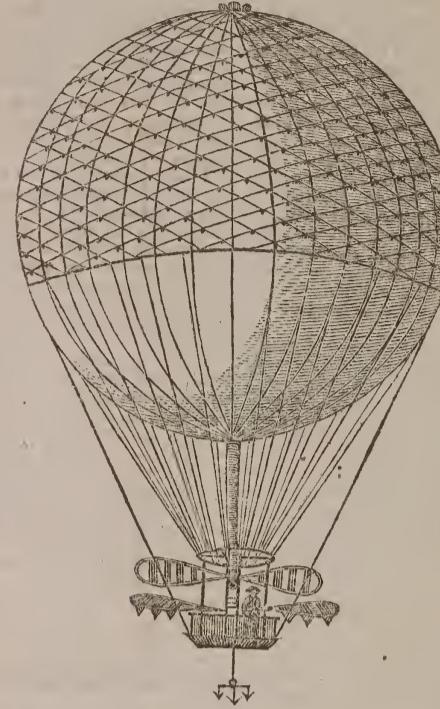
Advertisement Extraordinary.—To be sold cheap, several Pairs of fine, well-fed Pigeons, an Owl, Dog and Cat, that were intended for the aerial voyage of Messrs. Folly, and Co. also a couple of speaking Trumpets. Enquire this day and to-morrow, at the Fool's Cap, Little-wit-row, near Humbug-street, Cavendish-square.

Mr. Lunardi's dog and cat, are no bad emblems of our modern gentlemen who make the grand tour; they ride and sleep, and return with the same stock of ideas with which they set out, if they are externally transmogrified; it is usually for the worse! Sept. 1784

FOR SEPTEMBER, 1784.

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Of the BALLOON, as it appeared at the Lyceum, and was originally intended to be sent up, this Cut is an exact representation.



It was a perfect Sphere or Globe, about 33 feet in diameter, and 102 feet in circumference, and was to contain 18,200 cubit feet of inflammable air. It was covered entirely with oiled silk, the stripes alternately red and green. Below the Balloon was to be fixed one pair of wings, raised high, and moving horizontally, by means of a wheel with pinions, in order to increase the motion it might receive from the wind. In the gallery, not only Mr. Lunardi, but another gentleman, Mr. George Biggin, was to have ascended; and below the wings our aerial navigators were to have made use of a pair of oars, which were to move vertically, and which were intended to raise or depress the Balloon at their pleasure.—But some unexpected circumstances defeated this arrangement:

Mr. Biggin had actually taken his seat with Mr. Lunardi, in the gallery, which was

THE LONDON CHRONICLE for 1784.

To the PRINTER of the LONDON CHRONICLE.  
SIR,

Oct. 9. 1784

THE writer of the paragraph containing a natural reflection on the experiments with air balloons, cannot submit to the severe animadversions a Correspondent in your last, p. 343. has made on it, as proceeding from an ignorant enemy to the acquisition of useful knowledge. I will not undertake to justify the objections of the old ladies, but admit that he has refuted them much more satisfactorily on paper, than I am persuaded it would be in his power to do if he was beset by three or four matrons at a tea-table. The reflections that dictated the offensive paragraph were simply these. A large subscription is required, with long time and much attention, to prepare a balloon with all its apparatus, subject to various accidents, for the experiment of a few hours. When I heard that Mr. Lunardi had landed near Ware, I expected that the balloon, when eased of its load, would still have been buoyant enough to have carried itself; and that it would have been brought to town tied by a cord over a wagon or stage-coach, and have arrived at least half full of this extravagantly dear air, to have been replenished for farther attempts. But though this fluid may be of a permanent nature itself, it is scarcely to be expected that any material whatever can be made use of to contain so vast a body of it, sufficiently free from pores to retain it for any duration, and at the same time so light as to give us the advantage we wish to enjoy from the levity of the inflammable air. But we see three or four hundred pounds all evaporate in three or four hours! And a hundred pounds an hour is too dear, even for the pocket of a Prince to support, for a repetition of experiments necessary to be matured into knowledge. Hence, by raising large sums, we are exposed to be duped by balloon adventurers, or must make a Bartholomew-fair exhibition of an ingenious man, associated with a cat and a dog, for his indemnification: which is a most mortifying degradation in liberal undertakings! But cui bono, is the question that has given offence. I am sorry for it; but instead of withdrawing it, I must repeat it. Even if we had acquired the art of navigating a balloon in the air as perfectly as a

ship in the ocean, the application cannot be very extensive, if every balloon is to cost four or five hundred pounds; and is, when perfected, of so transitory an existence! The fire balloon seems to promise the most in point of facility, when once a regular use is found for balloons; and yet a furnace is neither a safe nor a convenient attendant in such excursions; and must, in many points, contract the uses to which balloons might be applicable. If indeed balloons could be regularly sent to the mouth of a coal pit, be filled with inflammable air gratis, and then be conveyed to the various places where they might be wanted, without loss of the contents; nothing would remain but to study the management of them: but even then, a difficulty little adverted to, stares us in the face. A ship swims in one medium, and is impelled by another; but a balloon floats in the same medium that we wish to apply to move it in the direction we want. The instance of a fish will scarcely be produced to shew the practicability of effecting this purpose, until the mechanism of human art can be proved equal to that of nature; concerning which I have some little doubt. If we could attain the complete government of a balloon in a dead calm stagnated air, I should deem it no small acquisition, and yet of no great use: because the application must then be confined to a state of the atmosphere not always to be found, or to be depended on. While so great a body as a balloon is strongly impelled by the wind in one direction, I own it appears to be an arduous undertaking to stem this force by any little exertions below, so as to give it another direc-

tion. But though your Correspondent may probably retort, that he cannot help the dimness of my sight, or the shallowness of my conceptions; I assure him, that even himself would not rejoice more sincerely or cordially at such a grand discovery than I should. I only regret, that the experiments cannot be made at a rate that will allow a sufficiency of them for the improvements we desire. On this principle I shall not be sorry if he should be able to prove all I have now written to be as weak as the old women's objections he has so ingeniously exerted himself to refute in his letter,

CUI BONO?

*Septr. 10. 1784.*  
Further authentic Particulars of the late  
AERIAL EXCURSION, collected from the Con-  
versation of Mr. LUNARDI.

WHEN the balloon first ascended, he was enabled, by the gradual progress it made, to take a distinct survey of the vast multitudes who were contemplating his flight; particularly the crowd in Moorfields; their faces, which were directed towards him, presenting the most uncommon appearance. At this moment it struck him, that if he threw his flag amongst them it would occasion some diversion; he therefore waved it, as a farewell salute, and dropped it from his hand. His oar fell presently after; which accident, for a time, embarrassed him, but still the balloon held on its course with a steady motion. While he remained over the city, the acclamations of the populace came to his ear, softened by the distance, into a most pleasing murmur. He was enabled, by one effort of the flight, to behold each extremity of London; it was literally a bird's-eye view of this vast metropolis. Its superb edifices, squares, the Thames, and the shipping on it, were objects that enriched the scene. As this magnificent spectacle diminished, he cast his eye towards his compas, and was surprised to find his course altered from a western to due north; however, he did not think it necessary to change the direction, not having fixed upon any particular spot of destination. He now looked at his barometer, and found he was at a considerable height, and that the balloon went with great celerity, the scene below continually varying, some objects withdrawing, and others presenting themselves. He was enabled, when at an altitude of full four miles, to distinguish corn-fields from pasture lands, so clear was the vision. The balloon descended so low near Barnet, that he spoke with some persons; as it rose again, he extended his sight to the horizon round, and beheld the earth, a suspended globe in immensity of space. Recovering from the reverie this magnificent object occasioned, he thought of his terrestrial friends, and being in a state of the utmost composure, wrote six letters to his associates on earth, some of which he committed to the winds, and such was their fate, that they have all, save one, been since heard of. Those that he retained were delivered to some of the guests of the hospitable Mr. Baker.

The accounts which stated that his clothes were covered with ice, when he came down; and that his wine was twice frozen, prove to be erroneous. The mercury did not at any one time approach the freezing point; nor did he experience any greater degree of cold, than being induced barely to button his coat. While he was proceeding on his way, he felt himself dry, and prepared to drink to the health of their Majesties, the King of Naples, the Prince of Wales, the Prince of Caramanico, the People of England, and some particular friends; but found himself without a corkscrew: in this predicament he determined on breaking off the neck of his bottle, which he effected with the utmost ease; and applied the neck to the following experiment: he estimated by his barometer, that he was full four miles in height, and throwing the neck towards the earth, found by means of his stop-watch, it was four minutes and a half in falling. He was enabled by reason of its glittering in the sun, to see it distinctly till it struck the ground.

The appearance which the machine had to many spectators, of its being violently agitated, must have been occasioned by the intervening medium, as Mr. Lunardi did not feel the least unpleasing motion during his voyage. His course varied at times to the Eastward and Westward of the North, but never more than one point. The azure canopy over him appeared serene and beautiful; and the beams of the sun, playing upon clouds that every instant varied their form and colour, produced the most sublime sensations. He was proceeding on his way, when he was suddenly surprised at an appearance which, for a time, he imagined was the sea, but recollecting the course he had taken, he discovered they were clouds, agitated and rolling over one another, like the waves of the ocean. He made a descent towards them, and as they broke beneath him, the earth again exhibited towns, villages, rivers, and fields, in the most pleasing diversity.

The relation of his leaving his little cat in charge of a woman is true; and that, on his final descent, he was assisted by a girl, to whom he gave half a guinea.

The place where Mr. Lunardi descended was a kind of inclosure; he passed very nearly over several hedge-rows full of trees, and in the last field very narrowly escaped a rugged stump of a tree, which might have done him great mischief, as the balloon was unmanageable; it rebounded several times from the earth with great force, and broke the gallery, beside bending the trumpet.

Mr. Lunardi declared that he felt no anxiety during his flight, and that the only ground for apprehension, would have been a thunder-cloud. He further observed that he felt not the least fatigue, more than what was occasioned by the labour he had undergone in preparing the balloon, for several days before the morning of his embarkation.

Mr. Sheldon, who followed Mr. Lunardi from London, on a fine hunter, changed his horse three times, and kept so well up with him, as to be enabled to dine in his company at Ware.

#### CHEMICAL PROCESS of filling the AEROSTATIC MACHINE.

It may be pleasing, and at this time not uninteresting, to persons unacquainted with the principles of chemistry, to be informed of the method employed for obtaining inflammable air; and even to those acquainted with chemical processes, it must be acceptable to have explained the application of the apparatus used in filling the balloon of M. Lunardi. We may, we think, without impropriety, express ourselves, on a supposition that our Readers have seen the works still standing in the Artillery Ground.

In two large casks on the ground, the zink, a semi-metal, was deposited, and, we are informed, some steel filings. In two backs or cisterns, erected high, the vitriolic acid and water were mixed, the water was conveyed into them by an engine; from these backs the mixture of acid and water was conveyed by tubes into the large casks; in these, on the application of the acid to the zink, an effervescence took place, and the inflammable air, the object of the process, was extricated from the zink. From each cask a tube proceeded, which conveyed the air to a tub elevated between the backs; at the bottom of this tub, immediately above the parts where the tubes entered, a valve was placed, which opened upwards by the impulse of the inflammable air; this valve was kept down by the weight of the fluid in the tub; this fluid was water impregnated with an alkali. The inflammable air transmitted through this alkaline fluid, was corrected of any acid, and volatilized and elevated in the process; it was then conveyed into the balloon by a tube proceeding from the upper extremity of the cask. When an addition of the mixture of acid and water was made to the zink in the large casks, it was necessary to discharge the fluid already in them; this was carefully preserved by the assistance of troughs lined with lead; for it is necessary to remark, that the combination of vitriolic acid and zink, when crystallized, constitutes a valuable drug called white vitriol.

#### AERIAL EXCURSION, *Septr. 20 - 1784.* Collected from the CONVERSATION of Mr. LUNARDI.

We seize the earliest opportunity in our power, of laying before the public some particulars respecting Mr. Lunardi's Tour,—which will be found to differ from the accounts given in most of the other prints; but, as they are of an authentic nature, they claim the credit of our numerous readers; who will find in the publication of his Narrative, which is now preparing, a confirmation of the facts herein-mentioned.

When the Balloon first ascended, he was enabled by the gradual progress it made, to take a distinct survey of the vast multitudes who were contemplating his flight; particularly the crowd in Moorfields; their faces which were directed towards him, presenting the most uncommon appearance. At this moment it struck him that if he threw his flag amongst them, it would occasion some diversion;—he therefore waved it, as a farewell salute, and dropped it from his hand.—His oar fell presently after; which accident, for a time, embarrassed him, but still the balloon held on its course with a steady motion.—While he remained over the city, the acclamations of the populace came to his ear, softened by the distance, into a most pleasing murmur.—He was enabled by one effort of the flight, to behold each extremity of London; it was literally a bird's-eye view of this vast metropolis. Its superb edifices, squares, the Thaines, and the shipping on it, were objects that enriched the scene. As this magnificent spectacle diminished, he cast his eye towards his compas, and was surprised to find his course altered from a western, to due north;—however he did not think it necessary to change the direction,—not having fixed upon any particular spot of destination. He now looked at his barometer, and found he was at a considerable height, and that the balloon went with great celerity,—the scene below continually varying, some objects withdrawing, and others presenting themselves.—He was enabled, when at an altitude of full four miles, to distinguish corn-fields from pasture-lands, so clear was the vision. The balloon descended so low near Barnet, that he spoke with some persons; as it rose again, he extended his sight to the horizon round, and beheld the earth, a suspended globe in immensity of space. Recovering from the reverie this magnificent object occasioned, he thought of his terrestrial friends, and being in a state of the utmost composure, wrote six letters to his associates on earth, some of which he committed to the winds, and such was their fate, that they have all, save one, been since heard of. Those that he retained were delivered to some of the guests of the hospitable Mr. Baker.

The few following particulars, respecting the late aerial excursion, are collected from the conversation of Mr. Lunardi, who is preparing a narrative on the subject for publick inspection:—He was enabled by one effort of the flight to behold each extremity of this vast metropolis, which he describes as a spectacle of uncommon grandeur. When he remained over the city the acclamations of the multitude came to his ear, softened by the distance into a most pleasing murmur. At an altitude of four miles he could distinguish corn-fields from pasture-land, so clear was the vision. He was so composed that he wrote six letters to his friends on earth, some of which he committed to the winds, and such was their fate, that they have all, save one, been since heard of. Those that he retained were delivered to some of the guests of the hospitable Mr. Baker.—The report of ice being on his clothes is erroneous; the mercury did not at any one time approach the freezing point; nor did he experience any greater degree of cold, than being induced barely to button his coat. Being dry, he prepared to drink to the health of their Majesties, the King of Naples, the Prince of Wales, the Prince of Caramanico, the People of England, and some particular friends; but found himself without a corkscrew: in this predicament he determined on breaking off the neck of his bottle, which he effected with the utmost ease; and applied the neck to the following experiment: he estimated by his barometer that he was full four miles in height, and throwing the neck towards the earth, found by means of his stop-watch, it was four minutes and a half in falling;—he was enabled, by reason of its glittering in the sun, to see it distinctly till it struck the ground.

The appearance which the machine had, to many spectators, of being violently agitated, must have been occasioned by the intervening medium, as Mr. Lunardi did not feel the least unpleasing motion during his voyage. His course varied at times to the Eastward and Westward of the North, but never more than one point. The azure canopy over him appeared serene and beautiful; and the beams of the sun, playing upon clouds that every instant varied their form and colour, produced the most sublime sensations. He was proceeding on his way, when he was suddenly surprised at an appearance which, for a time, he imagined was the sea, but recollecting the course he had taken, he discovered they were clouds, agitated and rolling over one another, like the waves of the ocean.—He made a descent towards them, and as they broke beneath him, the earth again exhibited towns, villages, rivers, and fields, in the most pleasing diversity.

The relation of his leaving his little cat in charge of a woman is true;—and, that on his final descent he was assisted by a girl, to whom he gave half a guinea.

Mr. Lunardi declared that he felt no anxiety during his flight, and that the only ground for apprehension, would have been a thunder-cloud. He further observed that he felt not the least fatigue, more than what was occasioned by the labour he had undergone in preparing the balloon, for several days before the morning of his embarkation.

Mr. Sheldon, who followed Mr. Lunardi from London, on a fine hunter, changed his horse three times, and kept so well up with him, as to be enabled to dine in his company at Ware.

One of the country fellows who came round Mr. Lunardi when he alighted, told him, the balloon appeared so dark that he took it for a fire-ball!

Mr. Sheldon gave a dinner at the London Tavern on Saturday last, at which Mr. Blanchard was present. Mr. Lunardi was invited, but could not attend.

An English lady of spirit, beauty, and family, of the name of *Litchfield*, has expressed a desire to take a tour in a balloon, and it is said will certainly carry her purpose into execution.

Mr. Lunardi was yesterday entertained by the Sheriffs of London, at the Sessions-house in the Old-Bailey, and was received and treated with the greatest marks of respect by the Judges, and other distinguished persons who were present at dinner, they all seeming to vie with one another in shewing him marks of civility, and promoting with liberality the success of his subscription.

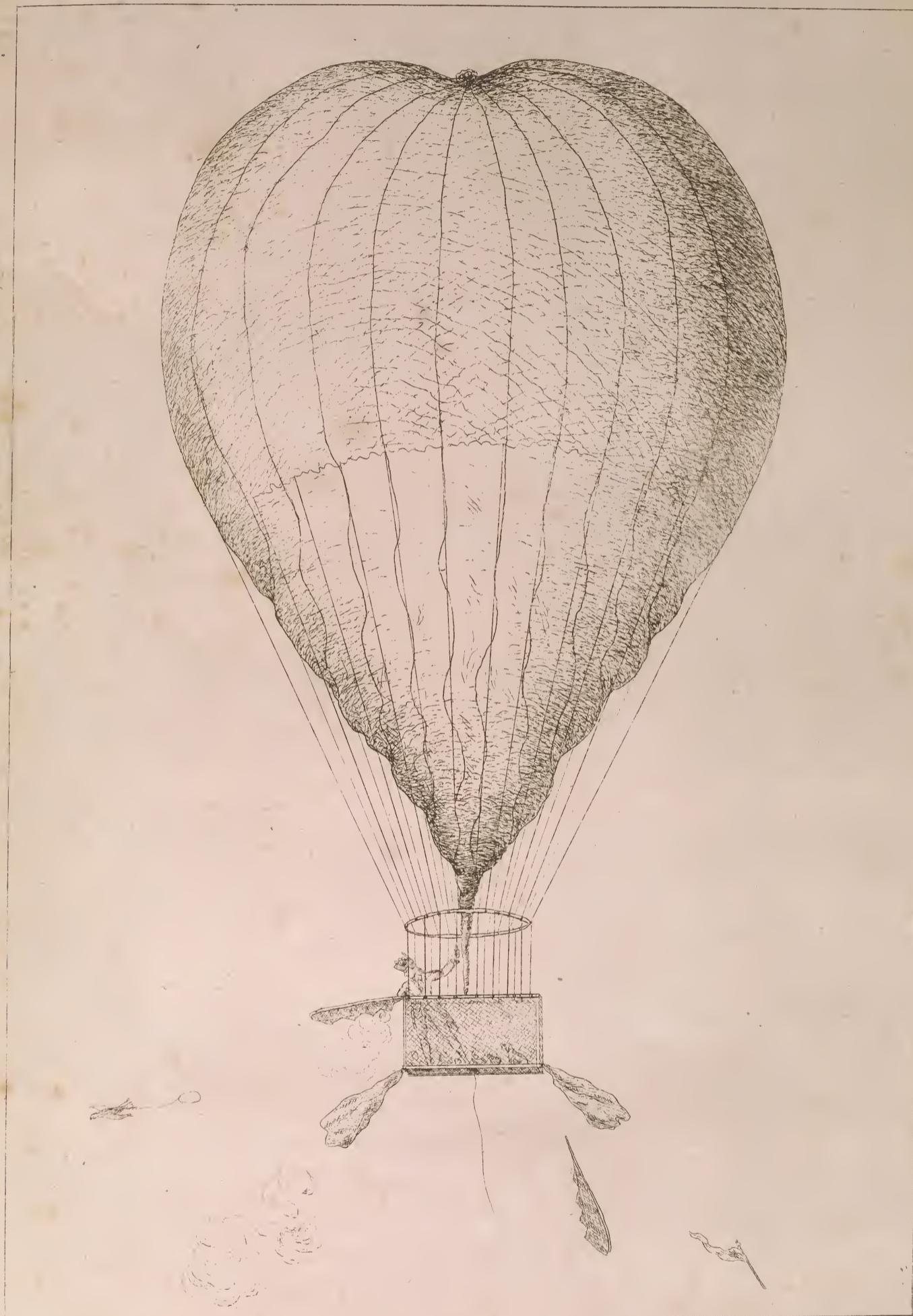
*Septr. 23 - 1784*  
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The relation of his leaving his little cat in charge of a woman is true; and on his final descent he was assisted by a girl, to whom he gave half-a-guinea.

THE ENTERPRIZING LUNARDI'S GRAND AIR BALLOON,



Which took its flight from the Artillery ground, Sept<sup>r</sup>. 15 1784; Amidst the acclamations of 300,000 Spectators.  
This wonderful Machine raised to the amazing height of near three miles; continued floating in the air for three hours,  
and then alighted about 5 miles beyond Ware, in Hertfordshire: 24 miles from London. Cutt as the act prints, by S.W. Fores  
N<sup>o</sup> 3 Fleet-street. Sept<sup>r</sup>. 23 1784.



ALVINCENZO LUNARDI LUCCHESE,  
maestro dell'Insegnatore di Napoli.  
Venne a trarre le sue doti nella Gran Bretagna  
mentre il suo Paese  
L'ingegnere inglese detto Sir B. de L'Isle  
ritrovò nelle sue  
abilità del tutto l'equivalente  
di quelle di un filo d'acqua.

*N<sup>o</sup>. XXXI.*



*N<sup>o</sup>. XXXII.*



*Mrs. R--fs.*

*The Aerial Traveller.*

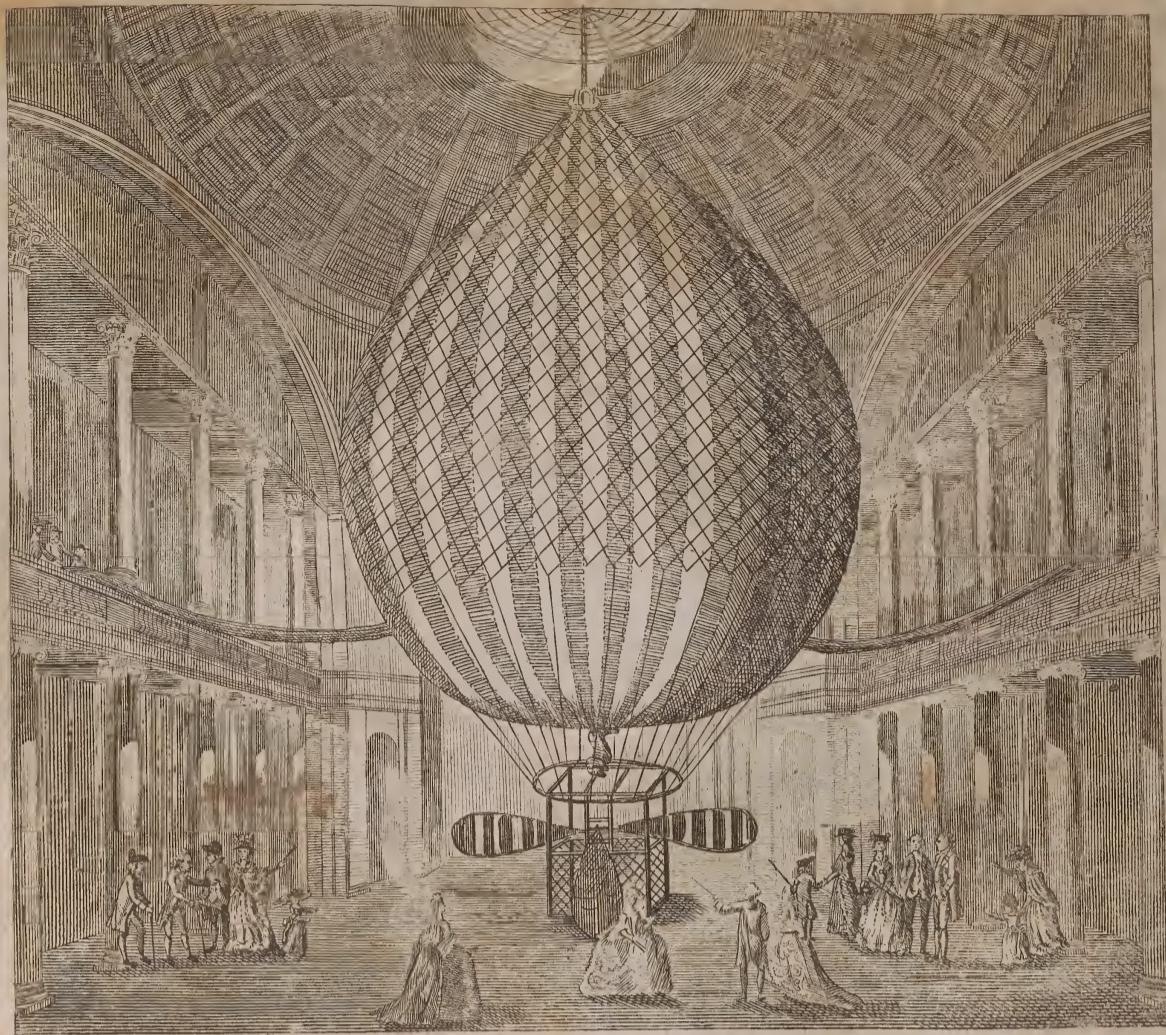
*London, Publish'd by A. Hamilton, Junr., Fleet-Street Decr. 22, 1784.*

*This Day was published, Price 6d.*  
**T**HE TOWN and COUNTRY  
 MAGAZINE,  
 For NOVEMBER, 1784.  
 Embellished with the following engravings: 1. A  
 beautiful Portrait of the engaging Mrs. R--fs. 2.  
 A strong Likeness of the Aerial Traveller. And,  
 3. An elegant historical Picture of Three Days after  
 Marriage.  
 Containing, among a variety of original and inter-  
 esting articles, Mathematical Questions and An-  
 swers; histories of the Tête-à-Tête annexed, or  
 memoirs of the Aerial Traveller and the engaging  
 Mrs. R--fs; the Coffee-house; the Theatre; ac-  
 count of new books and pamphlets; the Man of  
 Pleasure; sketch of a certain foreign Adventurer;  
 the Delinicator; the Observer; Poetry; Foreign Oc-  
 currances; Domestic Intelligence; State of Eu-  
 rope, &c.  
 Printed for A. Hamilton, jun. opposite St. Dun-  
 stan's Church, Fleet-street; and sold by G. Robin-  
 son, No 25, Pater-noster-row.  
 Of whom may be had,  
 The fifteen volumes, half bound, price 7s. 6d.  
 each, or any single Number, price 6d.



LE GLOBE ENLEVE A LA MUETTE.

Aujourd'hui 21 Novembre 1783, au Château de la Muette, on a procédé à une Expérience de la Machine Aerostatique de M. Montgolfier. Le ciel étant couvert de nuages dans plusieurs parties, clair dans d'autres, le vent nord-ouest. A midi huit minutes, on a tiré une bouteille qui a servi de signal pour annoncer qu'on commençait à remplir la Machine. En huit minutes, malgré le vent, elle a été développée dans tous les points et prête à partir. M. le Marquis d'Arlandes et M. Pilatre de Rozier étaient dans la galerie. La première intention était de faire envoler la Machine et de la retenir avec des cordes pour la mettre à l'épreuve, étudier les poids exacts qu'elle pouvait porter et voir si tout étoit convenablement disposé pour l'Expérience importante qu'on alloit tenter. Mais la Machine poussée par le vent, loin de s'élever verticalement, s'est déroulée sur une des allées du jardin, et les cordes qui la retenaient, agissant avec trop de force, ont occasionné plusieurs déchirures, dont une de plus de six pieds de longueur. La Machine ramenée sur l'estrade, a été préparée en moins de deux heures. Ayant de rempli, de nouveau, elle est parti à une heure 34 minutes, portant les mêmes personnes, on l'a vu s'élever de la manière la plus majestueuse, et lorsqu'elle a été parvenue à environ 250 pieds de hauteur, les voyageurs, baissant leurs chapeaux, ont salué les Spectateurs. On n'a pu empêcher d'arriver alors un soudain mélange de crainte et d'admiration. Bientôt les voyageurs aériens ont été perdus de vue, mais la Machine planant sur l'orizon, et étalant la plus belle forme, a marqué au moins à trois mille pieds de hauteur, où elle est resté visible, celle de cette Expérience et ne voulant pas faire une plus longue course, se sont concertés pour descendre; mais s'apercevant que le vent les portoit sur les maisons de la rue de Sevres, F. S. G. M. ont conservé leur sens-fraîl, et développant du gaz de ce qu'ils ont été, ayant eu dépassé Paris. Ils sont descendus alors tranquillement dans la campagne, au-delà du porpary boulevard, vis-à-vis le moulin de Crulebarbe, sans avoir éprouvé la plus légère incommodité, ayant encore dans leur galerie les deux de leur approvisionnement; de peur de donc, s'ils l'eussent désiré, franchir un espace triple de celui qu'ils ont parcouru, leur route a été de 4 à 500 toises, et le temps qu'ils y ont employé de 20 à 25 minutes. Cette Machine avoit 70 pieds de hauteur, 40 pieds de diamètre, elle contenait 6000 pieds cubes, et le poids qu'elle a enlevé étoit d'environ vingt et dix sept cent livres; fait au Château de la Muette, à cinq heures du soir. Signé, le Due de Potigny, le Due de Guines, le Comte Polastron, le Comte de Vaudreuil, d'Hunaud, Benjamin Franklin, Faujas de Saint Fond, Delisle, Leroy, de l'Academie des Sciences,



An Exact Representation of M<sup>r</sup>. Lumardi's Grand Air Balloon Exhibiting at the Pantheon.

A new Balloon Song to an old Tune.  
By G. M. Woodward.

As Balloons are the subject of my debate,  
From beggars in tatters to steers of state;  
This theme I'll pursue and joy merrily on;  
Our Balloons are the subject I chose for my song.  
Down Down.

The Statesman's Balloon is the seat of the brain,  
His valves are his pockets, - his ballast his gain;  
At his wonderful courage plebeians all stare,  
While he boldly puffs out his inflammable air.

The City apparatus for filling Balloons,  
Are provisions and drink, glasses, knives, forks & spoons;  
Good wine is his gas - which he cheerfully swills,  
And his last Balloon with rich Tantre he fills.

The Parson's Balloon - is the pulpit you'll say:  
No, no, my good friends - have patience, I pray:  
'Tis true that the Clergy love preaching, by fits:  
But the Parson's Balloon is the same as the City.

In Lumardi, our Hero, the ladies delight:  
Oh him they make Stanzas, or him dream each night:  
And with him each fair one would fly to the Moon,  
While with pleasure to all he displays his Balloon.

6  
My aerial theme I'll now bring to an end,  
And conclude, as begun, to Balloons a friend;  
May the gas which each chasees be finely instill'd,  
And our favourite Balloons be effectually fill'd.

With Magazine Vol. 2.  
1704.

## SIXTEENTH NIGHT of SUBSCRIPTION.

Theatre-Royal, Richmond-Green,

This present MONDAY, July 11, 1785,  
Will (by Desire) be presented (for the second Time) a Comic Oper., and

## The D U E N N A.

Ferdinand by Mr. PALMER,  
Isaac by Mr. WEWITZER,  
Don Jerome by Mr. FEARON,  
Antonio by Mr. DAVIES,  
Father Paul by Mr. PHILLIMORE,  
Lopez by Mr. WILLIAMS,  
Servants by Mess. SHADE, PERKINS, &c.  
And Carlos by Mrs. WATTS,  
Louisa by Mrs. PALMER,  
Duenna by Miss WILLIS,  
And Clara (second Time) by Miss MARIA PALMER,

(From the Theatre-Royal, Dublin.)

To which will be added (acted here but Twice) a NEW

## PANTOMIME, CALL'D THE POWERS of MAGIC: OR, HARLEQUIN'S HOLIDAY.

With the ASCENSION of a REAL

## AIR BALLOON.

Harlequin by Mr. PIT, T,  
Pantaloone by Mr. DAVIES,  
Clown by Mr. WEWITZER,  
Principal Singing Witch by Mr. PALMER,  
Lover Mr. PHILLIMORE, Blue-skin (the Butcher) Mr. SHADE,  
Spright by Mrs. BOLTON,  
And Columbine by Mrs. WATT,

To conclude with a Country Dance by the Characters.

BOXES 4s. P I T 2s. GALLERY 1s.

The Doors to be opened at Six and begin precisely at Seven o'Clock, Vivant Rex & Regina.

Places for the Boxes to be taken of Mr. ROGERSON, at the Stage Door of the Theatre.

### BLANCHARD's ASCENSION IN HOLLAND.

Hague, 13th of July, 1785.

"Yesterday at a few minutes before five o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. Blanchard ascended with his new balloon, accompanied by the Marquis de Breilpont, Captain of the French dragoons, (who went from London with Mr. Blanchard to Holland) and Mr. d'Horindien, Captain in the Legion of the Comte de Maillebois; the machine arose with great majesty, and the wind being N. W. and nearly calm, afforded the spectators a beautiful sight for a long time.

"The Stadholder and his whole Court were present, as well as the French Ambassador and our new Dutch French General Le Conte de Maillebois, and a vast number of the nobility, who testified their approbation at the inflation of the aérotat, which although so very large, was completely filled in less than two hours.

"As this was the first spectacle in aerostation in this country, it drew an immense concourse of people, indeed more than was ever collected together at any particular time in the memory of the oldest man; who testified their wonder and admiration at this new and brilliant experiment."

### BLANCHARD's ASCENTION From the HAGUE.

We are under the necessity of contradicting the article in our paper of Monday last, which asserted that Mr. Blanchard ascended from the Hague at five on the preceding Tuesday, accompanied by two foreign gentlemen. The mistake arose from the following circumstance—the Hague Gazette (from which it was copied) was printed off previous to the hour of Mr. Blanchard's departure, and from the size of the balloon, no doubt was entertained of the event, unfortunately, however, it was found unequal to the burden of three passengers. The following we have received as an authentic account of his ascent, the other particulars were as stated in the Herald of Wednesday.

Hague, July 13.

About three o'clock yesterday afternoon, Mr. BLANCHARD began the process of filling his balloon. The apparatus consisted of twenty-four casks, communicated by means of tin tubes, with two large tubs or recipients, and the materials used for the production of the inflammable air were vitriolic acid, and zinc. It had been previously calculated that two hours would be sufficient to fill the aérotat, but from the bad construction of their tubes, and their being very ill soldered, when the inflation took up a much longer time. When it was about two thirds full, Mr. Blanchard perceiving the approach of evening, resolved to depart with one companion only. The drawing of lots was fixed upon by the PRINCE and PRINCESS of ORANGE, and the French Ambassador, as the most equitable mode of determination, to this M. de Breilpont and M. Honinchtun (he rival candidates) came, and the latter became the favourite of fortune. He immediately entered the gondola, a quarter of an hour after seven was launched with his companion, the one waving the flag of Holla d, the other the colours of the Legion de Maillebois, of which he is an officer.

By advices from Holland we hear, that Mr. Blanchard descended at a village called Zevenhout, two leagues from Rotterdam, in a meadow at a distance from any house; that the country people, armed with flakes and pitch-forks had in a most violent manner seized upon the car and broken it to pieces, and stolen the materials of which it was made, which they divided among themselves in spite of the endeavours of the Aeronauts to prevent them. Not content with this, the farmer in whose meadow they alighted, had the insolence to demand 10 ducats for damages supposed to have been done to his ground. Mr. Blanchard, however had sufficient presence of mind to tell him that he had not so much about him, but offered to give him a note payable next day at the Hague. This the farmer accepted, after repeatedly threatening to demolish the balloon. It was then put in a boat with the fragments of the car, and in two hours the travellers arrived at Rotterdam, from whence they returned next day to the Hague, and waited on the Prince Stadholder, who kept them to dinner. The farmer has not yet been to demand the payment of his note.

The promissory note, delivered by Mr. Blanchard to the greedy Dutch Cannibal, who did not understand French, was worded as follows:

"I hereby certify, that I took ground at nine o'clock in the evening, in a lone meadow, belonging to a man who has suffered no manner of inconvenience by my descent; and who, nevertheless, has had the meanness to insist upon my engaging to give him ten ducats, after he had been assisting in destroying my car and globe."

(Signed) BLANCHARD.

July 12, 1785.

Our Rotterdam correspondent further says, that upon hearing of the extortionary demands alluded to, Blanchard exclaimed,—

"What unconscionable rascals are these Myneheeren!—It is true I got little, but I paid nothing!"

The uninformed people of Holland, imagine that Blanchard's balloon, was nothing more than a prodigious large bladder, filled with an infusion of quicksilver, on the principle of a school-boy's tricks with a dumpling.

The treatment poor Blanchard has received in Holland, is sufficient indeed to make him exclaim, "that he found himself in the Low Countries!" July 1785

785  
Extract of a Letter from the Hague, Aug. 2.

"Mr. Blanchard ascended on the 30th of last month from Rotterdam, in the same balloon in which he crossed the Channel, at half an hour after six o'clock in the afternoon, and descended at Ysselstein, near Utrecht, at nine o'clock exactly, where the reception he met with overbalanced the rough treatment he experienced at Zevenhuisen. Mr. Blanchard, says this was the most dangerous aerial voyage he ever took, as he was met by a strong whirlwind, and passed through several thunder clouds, and was at one time, as nearly as he could calculate, 16,000 feet high."

The peasant at Zevenhuisen, against whom an action had been brought, for damages done to Mr. Blanchard's balloon, in his defence, proved that he understood LOGIC better than AEROSTATION. He thus addressed his Judges: "Gentlemen, it is an established point in law, that whatever falls from the clouds becomes the property of the owner of the land on which it falls:

"Mr. Blanchard and his balloon fell in my field.

"Ergo, Mr. Blanchard and his balloon both became my property, which I permitted him to re-purchase for ten ducats, to which I am justly entitled."

This curious syllogism, which appeared irrefragable, diverted the Court exceedingly; and Mr. Blanchard was one of the first to join in the laugh.

Aug. 11, 1785

785. LISLE, AUG. 26: Mr. Blanchard and his companion, after a various course, occasioned by the different currents of air which they encountered in their elevation, were carried full 180 English miles from the place of their departure, and descended at a village in the province of Clermont. Having placed their balloon in security, on the fourth day after their departure a courier arrived here to announce their approach. Prince R —— dispatched a messenger to desire they would retard their arrival an hour, in which time the fix regiments were drawn out, who, on their entering the city, saluted the intrepid aeronauts with military honours. The aerial voyagers were then carried to the Prince's chateau; where they received every refreshment, and in the evening he accompanied them to the theatre. Blanchard was placed on his right side, and the Chevalier on his left, and a song composed to their honour was sung by one of the actors, who placed a laurel crown on the head of each. The whole audience joined in the chorus, and testified every emotion of admiration. The evening concluded at the Prince's, where every person of rank was invited, and the highest felicity prevailed.—The voyage was performed in less than 7 hours.

June 25. To the PUBLIC. 1785.  
MR. BLANCHARD's sudden departure from London was owing to unforeseen circumstances, which, before it is long, will be fully explained to the world, and shew that gentleman's conduct in its proper light; till then, the public are requested not to listen to the private invinations of vindictive and designing persons, who may rejoice at Mr. Blanchard's misfortune: but their enjoyment will be of a short duration, Mr. Blanchard hopes to convince his friends that he is worthy of their esteem, and his enemies, that he is above the attacks of envy and malice.

1785  
Hague, July 4. The few people who have already seen Mr. Blanchard's balloon, which is exhibited in the Grand Saloon of the Old Court, admire it very much in every respect; and we do not doubt but this Gentleman will, if the subscriptions for the necessary expenses fill, fulfil his engagements with the Public, and make an aerial voyage from this place, we hope with the same success of those he has already taken from other countries. Immediately after his intended journey, Mr. Blanchard will go to Frankfurt on the Main, where a subscription is already opened, and half filled, in his favour.

Mr. Blanchard, in a letter from Lille, gives an account of his last dangerous voyage. He was elevated, he says, 32,000 feet from the earth, and he resisted the rarity of this atmosphere for three minutes. In this desperate situation he tore his balloon open, and descended with extreme rapidity—the globe answering no other purpose than that of a parachute.

Dec. 1786

*Particulars of the Ceremony observed at the Inauguration of the Column erected in the Faubourg de Guînes, to the Honour of Mr. Blanchard.*

ON the 7th of January, at three o'clock, P. M. the Magistrates of the town of Guînes, with M. de Guiselin de Biencouf, Mayor and Sindic of the Noblesse of the district of Calais, proceeded to the Column which had been erected in the King's fort, where they found M. Blanchard, accompanied by the Vicount Desandrouin, Chamberlain to the Emperor and Knight of Malte, as also by M. de Follye, Knight of St. Louis and Captain Commandant in the regiment of Poitou.

M. de Launay, King's attorney for the municipal body, then addressed M. Blanchard in the following terms :

" We are proud of the honour, Sir, of having you here at the same day and hour, on which you alighted last year; but the sight of this Column, and the inscription given for it by the Academy, forbid all compliment. This monument, and the act of its inauguration, which we are now going to sign jointly with you, Sir, will supply its place. Both will last to the most remote posterity. Both will immortalize the memory of the first Aeronaut who had the courage to cross the seas, and both will bear witness to the just admiration, with which we regard an event that will form the most glorious epocha in this century."

M. Blanchard's reply was as follows :

" Gentlemen, "This Column, the valuable hint of your love for the Arts, the inscription with which it has been honoured by the Academy, say every thing for you. Gentlemen, and say much more than I have deserved; but how shall I acquit myself? what terms shall I use to express my admiration of and gratitude for a treatment equally noble and generous? Silence and respect, Gentlemen, must be my only reply."

The Clerk then read the Act of Inauguration, and received the signatures; after which the company returned to Guînes, where the Mayor and Echevins had caused a very magnificent entertainment to be provided; after which there was a ball; the Noblesse and principal inhabitants, as well as a number of foreigners who had attended at the inauguration, were sharers of the festivity: Among others were two gentlemen who had accompanied M. Blanchard in his aerial voyages, viz. the Chevalier L'Epinal, and M. d'Houïchthon, an officer in the legion of Maillebois.

The only ornament of the hall was a portrait of M. Blanchard, with a side view of the Column, in a medallion encircled by a myrtle wreath, and surrounded by a crown of laurel, with this inscription, written by M. de Laplace, citizen of Calais:

*Antant que le Francois l' Anglois fut intrepide,  
Tous les deux ont plané jusqu'au plus haut des  
airs,*

*Tous les deux, sans Navare, ont traversé les  
mers,  
Mais la France a produit l'inventeur et le guide.  
The English and Frenchman have like cour-  
rage shewn;  
Both through th' aerial tracks sublime have  
flown;  
Without a ship both cross'd the dang'rous tide;  
But France produc'd the inventor and the  
guide.*

The following account, given by M. Blanchard, of the destruction of one of his balloons, with his reflections upon it, may not be unpleasing to some of our readers, at the same time that it may serve to repress the temerity of those adventurers who rashly venture to soar to the skies by means of so dangerous a vehicle. It is dated at Brussels, May 27; and is as follows.

" This afternoon about 4 o'clock, as I was sitting at home at dinner, M. Leimpens, Counsellor to his Royal Highness, rode up to my house full speed, to acquaint me that, as he was taking an airing on horseback, on the ramparts, attended by his servant, he saw a colossal machine ascend very rapidly from the garden of the *Annonciades*, till it gained the height of the weathercock of the church-steeple, when it burst with a report resembling a clap of thunder; after which it fell as rapidly. He hastened towards it, and found it was one of my aerostates, and that it was torn in pieces, having been entangled in some chimneys; adding, that he had given orders for disengaging it with all the care possible; but he was afraid it was now unserviceable.

" On this information I hastened to the place, and found my balloon rent in pieces.—What I apprehend to have been the cause of this disaster, I shall briefly lay down.

" This balloon, which contained 14,142 cubic feet, had been three days in the garden of the *Annonciades*, and was filled with atmospheric air; consequently liable to be dilated or condensed, according to the variations of the at-

Balloon flying is forbid in the Emperor's dominions and in Prussia: the wife Joseph, and the cautious William, have forbid Blanchard to hunt any of their wild geese; or set their subjects an example so much at defiance with German gravity.

1786

*Mar. 1. 1787*  
Blanchard writes, that he has opened a subscription at Valenciennes for an aerial voyage the beginning of March. For the sake of preventing the dangerous inconveniences attending the departure and the descent of too large a globe, he intends to set out with five balloons, four of 900 cubic feet, and the fifth of 1250. The latter will contain a *soupape*, and a *parachute* capable of supporting four persons.

mosphere. The workmen, who were busy in giving it the coat, were strictly charged to fill or empty it according to these variations.

" I had foreseen that morning, that the heat would be excessive, and the variations might be sudden, as a number of these clouds were coming from the east. I had therefore caused the sucker to be opened, and emptied the balloon of about one fourth of its air. For more security, I had caused it to be tied down by an additional number of ropes. But all these precautions were fruitless. — The heat suddenly increased: The balloon was distended in an instant. There was no time to open any vent; the ropes were broken; even the iron bolts, which were fixed in the wall, were torn away. The workmen caught hold of the balloon, thinking to stop it, but finding themselves lifted from the ground, prudently let it go. A sudden gust of wind raised it to a prodigious height, where it would probably have remained a considerable time; but having turned on its axis, the internal heat acted at once upon every point of the spherical covering, and this total distension necessarily produced the explosion. Even the tape with which I had guarded the seams was burst; as well as the cord of the equator, which was of considerable thickness.

" Such are the dreadful effects of the sudden distension of a balloon. It may carry an aerial traveller to the most prodigious height, and destroy him there, if he has not skill or presence of mind to prevent it; as a sudden condensation may precipitate him to the earth. I therefore tremble for those who, without knowledge or experience, venture on a journey of this kind, and after having performed it once, pretend to make a sport of aerostation.

" For my own part, the habit I am in of travelling the aerial regions will always furnish me with means for avoiding such accidents, to which, assuredly, numbers will fall victims.—The dangers to which aerial travellers may be exposed, with the means of guarding against them, I intend to publish in a collection of tracts on this subject.

BLANCHARD.

Blanchard performed his 17th aerial excursion on the 18th ult. from Douai. This ascension was the noblest sight the inhabitants of Flanders ever beheld. He mounted with the greatest intrepidity, and was followed by the eyes of the multitude for half an hour. This voyage, from the violence of the wind, may be considered as the most perilous experiment which this wonderful aeronaut ever made. He went 96 miles in the same number of minutes, and descended at l'Etoile, a village in Picardy. M. Deteloge, the Lord of the Manor, received him with every mark of distinction.

May 23. 1786

M. Blanchard made a second aerostatic experiment the 23d ult. at Brussels, at half after twelve, notwithstanding a heavy rain, and stormy weather. He went only about a league from the town, and in all probability he would have descended in a field full of rye, had not some of the numerous company that followed him, took hold of the cords, and pulled the balloon in triumph to Brussels again. He was introduced to the Prince of Ligne, to whom he presented the plan he had traced in the air. The next day he set out for Hamburgh, whither he had been solicited to go by the most flatt ring invitations.

July 1. 1786

To the EDITOR.

8 I R,

ON the 18th of this month, at the Castle of the city of Liege, I filled my Aerostat with inflammable air, lighter as 10 to 1 than atmospheric air. I extracted this air from iron without the aid of any acid. Forty pounds of ballast and a speaking-trumper were in my car, and two men were appointed to hold the cords while I went to pay my respects to the Prince de Liege, and to take leave of his Royal Highness.—But unfortunately during this moment, one of the men by accident quitting his hold, the other fearing to be carried aloft, and having no ambition for an excursion in the air, abandoned it also. The Aerostat rose in an instant, and in two or three seconds was lost in the clouds. I dispatched several couriers with the wind, but they have all returned after a fruitless search—a thing which does not surprise me—for this globe is the best made of any I ever had—all its parts are exactly closed, except the lower, for the purpose of being opened in case of dilatation. There is only one accident which gives me hopes of its descention, for unless it bursts by rarefaction it may continue in the air for six months. It took its route by the forests of Ardennes, where if it descends I may probably never hear of it.—If by a change of current, it should make its way, Sir, into England, I trust those who find it will, through your announcing the fact, send it to the Privy Council of the Prince at Liege.

I have the honour to be, &c.

BLANCHARD.

Liege, Dec. 24. 1786

P. S. On the 27th, being the festival of St. John, and the anniversary festival of the Free Masons, I shall make my twenty-second ascension from the citadel with another Balloon.

1787

BLANCHARD'S

NARRATIVE of his last AEROSTATICK EXPERIMENTS.

My ascent on the 26th of August, was from Strasburg, when the weather was so dreadfully bad, that it was only to gratify the numerous spectators, that I could think of the enterprise. In this experiment, nothing occurred to me new or interesting, except one phenomenon. When I had arrived at the height of about 2000 yards, I let go a dog attached to a parachute, which instead of descending gradually, was carried rapidly, by a kind of whirlwind, above the clouds. Soon afterwards, it began greatly to descend, when the animal, on passing by, recognized his master, by a piteous yelping. I then endeavoured to recover the parachute, when it was again carried aloft by another whirlwind, and for about six minutes I lost sight of it, at the expiration of which time, I descried it with my telescope, when the dog appeared to be asleep. Beaten and driven about by the violence of different currents of air, I resolved to descend on the other side of the Rhine. The parachute vibrated for some time, and did not reach the ground till about twelve minutes after the balloon had descended.

My 27th ascension took place at Leipsic, on the 29th of September, in sight of a most brilliant and numerous assembly. The weather was fine, and every thing favourable for the attempt. I moved through the whole town, within a small distance of the ground, attended by the greatest part of the spectators. After amusing them for a considerable time in this manner, I mounted in the air, and disappeared from their sight. I then returned, and descended in the town, and the following day tried another experiment. I discharged the gas into a smaller balloon, to which I attached a dog, and which I intended to risk to the experiment. It succeeded as I expected, the balloon making an explosion below, and the dog being let down gently, without receiving any hurt.

On the 7th, being requested to repeat this experiment, I made dispositions for bursting the balloon above, and attached to it a parachute, which carried two dogs. They mounted to such a height, that notwithstanding the clearness of the sky, the balloon was lost in the immense expanse. The best telescopes became useless, and I judged that the animals would perish through cold.—They descended, however, about two hours after, safe and sound, in a town about three miles from Leipsic. I went yesterday to claim them, and found them floating in the air, attached to the parachute. The officers who were in garrison, had several times let them down from the church steeple, in sight of all the inhabitants.—I also found the balloon at the *Hôtel-de-ville*. From the most accurate observations that I could make, the utmost elevation of the balloon was about eight thousand four hundred yards.

(Signed)

BLANCHARD,

Pensioner of the King.

Extract of a Letter from Nuremberg, Oct. 19.

" A letter from Mr. Blanchard says, " during my last ascension, on the 26th of August, I was obliged to quit my balloon, twelve feet in diameter and eighteen in height, which took its direction towards the Margrave of Baden. I hoped to have had news of it in my journey to Leipzig; but having heard no tidings you will very much oblige me by taking a memorandum of the persons who know where it has been found, and write to me of it at Nuremberg, or to M. de Burges, Commander of the Citadel at Strasbourg, or, if you please, at Vienna, where I shall be in December."

" I am preparing to make my twenty-eighth ascension. 1787 " BLANCHARD."

BLANCHARD made his thirteenth experiment on the 5th of May, at Basle. He ascended, in the presence of the Margrave of Baden, without the usual boat, his wings or parachute, owing to an opening of about six inches towards the equatorial part of the balloon, which prevented its being completely filled. All his efforts to raise the boat or basket being fruitless, he tied four of the ropes at the bottom of the aerostat, and in that manner mounted the airy regions; after an excursion of half an hour, he discovered a defect in the balloon, when pulling the valve string, the valve unluckily gave way, the inflammable air began to fly, and he was hurried down about two hundred fathoms with a violent rapidity. His feet received the first impression, but by good luck he received only a sprain in one ankle.

10. Mr. Blanchard, on the 22d of July, made his 32d aerial excursion, from Brunswick, in the presence of the Reigning Duke and a very brilliant assembly. Blanchard relates on the occasion, that

" Nothing was neglected on my part to answer the Prince's expectations, and in a very short time three balloons were filled. The Duke himself would send one into the air, which took the direction westward. I adapted to the second an immense parachute, which I fixed to the under part of my boat, and letting this aerostat be about ninety feet above the third, I fastened my wings to the machines that were prepared for them, and disposed myself to mount."

After manœuvring for some time in the air, he began to descend. He soon got over a wood, where a dead calm detained him for a short time; but a smart shake of his wings made him fly over to a plain where a great number of people on horseback tendered their arms to him; they took hold of his anchor, and by means of his extended wings, and the parachute which opened itself at a proper time, he touched the earth. They then towed him back exactly to the place of his departure, where he was received with the loudest applause. The Reigning Duke and his family gave him several presents of watches, trinkets, &c. &c.

*Extract of a Letter from Mr. Blanchard, dated  
Basle, in Switzerland, April 25. 1790.*

"Retired in a castle near the gates of Basle, I have been many months making two wings, composed of whalebone, and covered with taffety, which are exactly like those of birds; and notwithstanding they cover a space of 90 feet, their lightness, joined with the force I have borrowed from the powers of mechanism, enables me to use them so easily, that I can mount with the least motion. On Monday the 5th of May, I will make a public attempt in this city, at the Margrave of Baden's, and mount myself from the Court of the Palace. I shall as my first trial take my parachute with me, which a small balloon, about 15 feet in diameter, will raise, and keep ready to spread when wanted. I may, perhaps, have a second of the same size for other experiments. Many motives have engaged me to perfect and execute this piece of mechanism: 1st, To find some method of direction, by a considerable diminution of the volume of the balloon; 2dly, To reduce of course the expences of an experiment, to a mere nothing; 3dly, To avoid all the dangers which my ascension among a number of inaccessible mountains will expose me to, if carried by a balloon only, and driven by a bad wind, I should reach the summit of those mountains, which no mortal ever arrived at; whereas I now no longer fear those desolate places, but shall be very glad to see them, as I can easily leave them by flying. After this essay nothing will be difficult to me, and I dare promise the success of my wings beforehand, from the observations I have made in the different experiments. I have tried for these 14 or 15 years with machines far from the perfection of my present piece of mechanism. I flatter myself I shall yet have the satisfaction of returning to Paris on a fixed day, flying in the air."

*BLANCHARD'S ASCENSION.*

Blanchard made his thirtieth experiment on the 5th inst. at Basle. He ascended, in the presence of the Margrave of Baden, without the usual boat, his wings or parachute, owing to an opening of about six inches towards the equatorial part of the balloon, which prevented its being completely filled. All his efforts to raise the boat or basket being fruitless, he tied four of the ropes at the bottom of the aerostat, and in that manner mounted the airy regions, inspiring a general consternation and terror all round. A mournful silence, expressive of their inward anxiety, seized all the numerous spectators, and it was only the colours, waved in the air by Blanchard, that tranquilized their minds. His elevation was soon at such a height, that he hardly distinguished the mountains he was soaring above, but as he was not sufficiently clothed, he could not long resist the severity of the cold. The heavens were calm, and not the least cloud obstructed the majestic expansive view. On that endless circle of mountains the eye enjoyed one of the most glorious spectacles of the atmosphere. It was with regret that he was forced to quit that enchanting scene, after an excursion of about half an hour. He examined his balloon, and perceived the fracture, that had prevented its being completely filled, and rendered abortive his efforts to carry the basket, &c. then pulled the valve's string, and immediately felt he was descending. The objects began to be more visible, and for fear of falling on the tops of some houses, or the neighbouring forests, he pulled the string a second time. By this second pull the valve unluckily gave way; the inflammable air began to fly, and he was hurried down above two hundred fathoms with a violent rapidity. His seat received the first impression, and his good luck received no other injury but a sprain in one of his ankles. It was certainly a miraculous escape, for the balloon afterwards was found hardly able to support itself. The Senate of Basle have placed the colours in the archives of the town, in remembrance of so daring an ascent, and so dangerous a descent. *26 May. 1790.*

*BLANCHARD AND HIS BALLOON.*

*Basle, Aug. 12.* Mr. Blanchard having me time since advertised his intention of ascending in a balloon on the 10th instant, their Royal Highnesses our Princes and Princesses, with many others, and a numerous party of nobility, surrounded by multitude, met for the purpose of seeing what was deemed next to impossible here. At one o'clock he began, on the firing of a gun, to inflate his balloons, to one of which a attached gondola, painted red, and decorated with white silk fringe. At five o'clock, all being ready, he mounted, the surprise of every spectator, and the other being remarkable fine, added to the beauty of the scene. The wind being trifling, the balloon went only as far as the village of about three English miles distance, where it ended at half past seven, amongst a number of company assembled, who received him with applause; but instead of getting into the car, by some manoeuvre he raised himself again, and steered back to the place from whence he was received with a shower of applause, and carried to the Palace, one of the Duke of Brunswick's carriages. The crowd was so great it was difficult to discern whether they did not actually carry the horses, carriage and all, to the Palace, instead of taking them off as they do in England.

The next day he went to the play-house, where a new play and entertainment were performed, the former named as an honour after him, and the latter called the Balloon. The Theatre was full of nobility, hardly any thing but stars to be seen; and previous to the play beginning, Blanchard sent up small balloon, with a dog in a basket, which had a fuze burning, calculated to rise such a height. This, after being nearly out of sight, let the animal fall, which came to the ground unharmed. The Princes and every body here look on Blanchard to be something more than human from his extraordinary feats.

*BLANCHARD'S Letter to the Editors of the  
Saxon Journal, dated Brunswick, Aug. 13.  
1790.*

*GENTLEMEN,*

"According to my promise I send you an account of my experiment at Brunswick. I arrived in this town the 22d of last month, and found the carpenters and other workmen preparing for my 32d ascension. These preparations were very grand, and formed a kind of Amphitheatre, like that of Verona, which could hold many thousands. The reigning Duke sent me his state carriage to carry me to the appointed place: At four o'clock every part was full; the *coup d'œil* was superb; the illustrious persons who composed the brilliant assembly added lustre to the whole. The sky was serene, the air calm; nature, and man, in short, favoured my enterprise. Nothing was neglected on my part to answer the Prince's expectations, and in a very short time three balloons were filled. The Duke himself would send one into the air, which took the direction westward. I adapted to the second an immense parachute, which I fixed to the under part of my boat; and letting this aerostat be about ninety feet above the third, I fastened my wings to the machines that were prepared for them, and disposed myself to mount. The barometer, at my departure, was at 28 inches, 1 line. The removed atmospheric air might weigh more than 327 pounds; there wanted just a pound for my being at a proper equilibrium with the surface of the earth. I charged the car with 89 pounds, I trod consequently on a ground of 90 pounds.—At the first motion of my wings, this weight seemed to obstruct their action. I diminished it 20 pounds, and instantly rose, employing all my strength. It was exactly five o'clock, and in fifteen minutes I was planning over the town of Brunswick. Every stroke or beating of the wings so much agitated the car, that I was obliged to forbear the motion, for the purpose of consulting the barometer, which I found at 24 inches; this, according to the rule of the barometer, gave 3640 feet elevation. During this observation, I descended 92 feet; my extended wings, horizontally fixed, produced the effect of a *parachute*. The air was calm, and the part of the atmosphere I was in very pure; I re-assumed my work, and abandoning 20 pounds of ballast, I remained half an hour in the same elevation over the town, and describing different angles. I had the project of descending in the same place I had set out from, and from which I was not very far; but the fruit of all my attempts was to tack and wind about; giving sometimes to my wings an inclining position, I attempted to return against the current of the air, which though feeble, I could never conquer, and all I could do was to keep in the same place. In executing these manœuvres, I had 50 pounds of ballast to bear; my strength was exhausting, and I was going to descend in the town, when I got rid of 20 pounds more of my ballast. This facilitated very much my work; I had only 30 pounds now to support; I manœuvred pretty easily, but yet could not mount higher; I had been working 32 minutes, and my wings seemed not to act with the same celerity: I threw away twenty pounds more of my weight: It was not difficult then to rise, and leaving the town, I got four thousand eighty-five feet high. The thermometer, which was at 20 degrees at my departure, was then at 9; the cold, though sharp, was bearable; I got rid of the rest of my ballast, and by a light shake of the wings, at 35 minutes after five, I reached the height of 5860 feet. I took immediately the direction of S. S. W. 70 degrees westward of the compass: I got to this elevation by the assistance of my wings, and could not keep in it but by shaking them; the moment I gave over this manœuvre I descended immediately. The barometer was at 21 inches 6 lines, and the thermometer 5 degrees above 0. I had worked very hard at the chemical process for filling the balloon. I was much agitated, and very warm on account of the aerial manœuvres; the cold seized me, I saw my breath smoking as in the severest winter. All my experiments on the wings being over, I did not think proper to hazard my health: I extended therefore my wings to their greatest volume, and began to descend. I soon got over a wood, where a dead calm detained me for five minutes; a smart shake of my wings made me fly over to a plain where hundreds of people on horseback tendered their arms to me: they took hold of my anchor, and by means of my extended wings, and the parachute which opened itself at a proper time, I touched the earth with the lightness of a bird; and yet I got down with a pretty considerable weight, having lost in my voyage 29 pounds of energy by dilatation. I weighed then 30 pounds. They seized the cord in order to tow me towards Brunswick, but I could not rise again but by the help of my wings: I was forced however to dismount them, for fear they should be entangled and broken among the trees and houses we were to pass by. This retarded very much my return, as I could not easily get over the drawbridges and other fortifications. By manœuvring however with a little more spirit, I got over all these difficulties, and returned with the balloon exactly to the place of its departure. The Prince's carriage in waiting conveyed me to the Play-house.

On the 27th of September, at three o'clock, Blanchard ascended at Berlin, attached to his balloon, in the presence of his Majesty, the Royal Family, and many foreign Princes. A building was erected, which encompassed the balloon; but when it was ready to ascend, half of it was pulled down, to give the spectators a better view. Blanchard saluted his Majesty, just as he quitted the earth, with a white flag, on which was displayed the Royal Black Eagle. He went over the river Spree, and had ordered a post coach and six at a certain distance, where it is supposed he alighted, as he meant to appear at the Theatre in the evening. The price of admission were two dollars.—The sum taken was very considerable. He very quickly disappeared. *26 Oct. 1790.*

We relate the following circumstance, which happened in the Bannat on the 14th ult. as it shews a noble fortitude, at the same time that it conveys a striking instance of the national hatred engendered in the breasts of the Mahomedans against the Christians.

A Turkish man and boy were loading a waggon with hay, when they were surprised by a foraging party of Austrians: The boy, though only twelve years of age, defended himself by two pistols on the top of the waggon with great bravery. When his powder and ball were expended, he made a noble resistance with a scythe, and wounded two hussars very dangerously; but the horses in the waggon taking fright, it was overturned, and the man and boy much bruised. Both of them had broken bones, which, when examined by the surgeon, made the man cry with pain; but the boy bore all with the patience of an ancient Roman, and reproved his companion for betraying his uneasiness before the Christian dogs.

*BLANCHARD and his NEW BALLOON.*

BLANCHARD, to please the DIET at WARSAW, is going to make another Aerial Voyage, in a Balloon eight times larger than the one he ascended with before—the gondola weighs 600 pounds, and is to contain a second person—the first gondola weighed only fifteen. *27 Oct. 1790.*

*BLANCHARD and his BALLOON.*

*Tue 3 1790*

On the 14th of May, Mr. Blanchard ascended in the Montgolfier belonging to Mr. Potocki, at Warsaw, accompanied by him and two other persons, from a private garden. This being only an attempt to try it, no person in Warsaw was apprised until they saw them at a considerable height in the air, after which they descended about a quarter of a mile from the City, in perfect safety; and Blanchard intended to go up publicly again in his own Balloon on the 16th, if the weather permitted.

*AEROSTATION.*

In a long letter, written from Prague, dated the 1st instant, M. Blanchard gives a circumstantial detail of his 37th aerial excursion, accompanied by the Comte Joachim Sternberg, Member of the Royal Academy of Prague.

He filled his aerostat with 900 cubic feet of gas; and on the 31st of October, at four in the afternoon, he ascended from the Plain Bathing-Garten, in presence of a multitude of spectators.

The Count was provided with several instruments for making observations; but the machine was scarcely at the height of 1000 feet before they were all broken, or thrown down from the gallery by the violent motion of an eddy of wind, which tossed the machine in all directions.

Mr. Blanchard declares, that though at that time the air was perfectly calm in the lower regions, he never experienced any thing equal to the storm to which he and his companion were exposed. Frequently the base of the aerostat was perpendicular to the horizon, and the people below could easily see, with their telescopes, the inside and the floor of the gallery, the sides and doors of which were torn to pieces.

At the height of 1000 fathoms the air was perfectly calm; and notwithstanding apparent dangers, the aeronauts descended afterwards in perfect safety. *27 Sept. 1790.*

*BALLOONS.*—As a proof that ascending in a Balloon has not the property of making persons giddy, the celebrated *aerostat* BLANCHARD has been frequently heard to declare, "that he could not go up twenty rounds of a ladder without his head swimming." Of his powers of going into the air, no one can entertain a doubt.

## M<sup>me</sup> BLANCHARD.

LA forme allégorique de ce monument, inintelligible pour ceux qui n'auraient point entendu parler de madame Blanchard, est destinée à rappeler le souvenir de la rare intrépidité de cette célèbre aéronaute qui, la première, osa donner le spectacle magnifique des ascensions nocturnes au milieu des flammes et des feux d'artifice, et qui, victime d'un événement inoui, trouva la mort dans une des fêtes les plus brillantes du jardin de Tivoli.

Un jet de flammes s'élevant de la partie supérieure d'un aérostat qui couronne le sommet du monument, une nacelle dont les cordages sont rompus, et l'inscription suivante, caractérisent l'art que professait madame Blanchard, et sa funeste catastrophe.

A LA MÉMOIRE  
DE MAG<sup>e</sup> SOPHIE ARMAND,  
VEUVE BLANCHARD,  
CÉLÈBRE AÉRONAUTE,  
VICTIME DE SON ART  
ET DE SON INTRÉPIDITÉ.  
ELLE FUT ENLEVÉE  
A SES AMIS  
LE 6 JUILLET 1819,  
DANS SA 43<sup>e</sup> ANNÉE.

Madame Blanchard, veuve du célèbre aéronaute de ce nom, était née le 25 mars 1777 dans la commune des Trois-Canons près de la Rochelle; ses parents s'appelaient Armand, et professaient le culte protestant. Sa mère était près d'accoucher, lorsque le hasard amena devant la maison qu'elle habitait un voyageur inconnu qui lia conversation avec elle, et finit par lui dire: Madame, faites une fille, et elle sera ma femme. Ce voyageur était l'aéronaute Blanchard, qui épousa effectivement mademoiselle Armand presqu'au sortir de l'enfance. Madame Blanchard, familiarisée ainsi de bonne heure avec son art, avait contracté une telle habitude du danger, qu'elle a assuré s'être plusieurs fois endormie pendant la nuit dans sa frêle et étroite nacelle, en attendant que le retour de la lumière lui permit de descendre dans un lieu sûr. Un jour, sur le point d'effectuer une ascension à Francfort-sur-le-Mein, elle s'aperçut que le

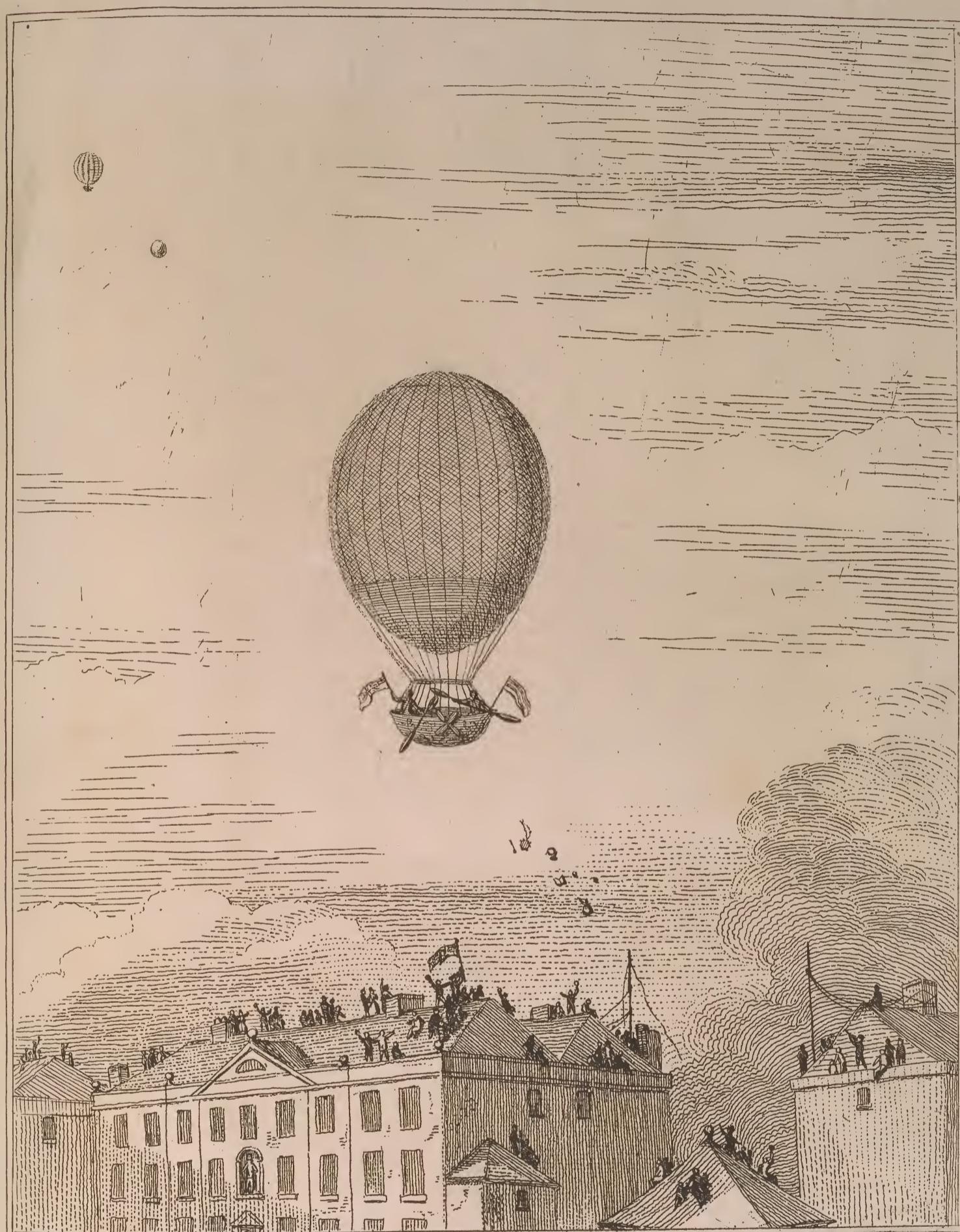
ballon perdait sensiblement de son gaz, et que, pour peu qu'elle tardât, elle ne pourrait plus s'élever; aussitôt elle fit détacher la nacelle pour alléger le poids, posa ses pieds sur le cerceau auquel le filet est attaché et s'élança ainsi dans les airs portée debout, sur un faible roseau qu'elle sentait flétrir à chaque minute. On pourrait citer une foule de traits semblables qui prouvent son étonnante intrépidité.

Une colonne monumentale élevée en 1786 auprès de la ville de Guines, constate que son mari avait eu la gloire de franchir le détroit en passant, dans un aérostat, de la côte d'Angleterre sur celle de France. Madame Blanchard, à son imitation, nourrissait le projet plus périlleux peut-être de couronner sa carrière aérostatique en passant de la côte de France sur celle d'Angleterre.

Fixée à Paris depuis plusieurs années, elle avait imaginé la première de suspendre au-dessous de son ballon des pièces d'artifice qu'elle faisait jouer à une certaine hauteur, et qui produisaient dans une ascension nocturne un spectacle aussi magnifique que difficile à décrire; cette admirable mais trop dangereuse invention causa sa perte, le 6 juillet 1819, à 10 heures du soir, dans une des fêtes du jardin de Tivoli, au milieu d'une réunion aussi nombreuse que brillante. Madame Blanchard, portée par un aérostat élégant, s'élève avec majesté en répandant des fleurs sur l'assemblée; et bientôt, planant dans les airs au milieu des flammes du Bengale et des tourbillons de feu, elle figure aux yeux des spectateurs émerveillés une divinité portée sur les nuages et montant aux cieux environnée de la foudre et des éclairs: mais à peine l'artifice avait fait son effet, qu'on aperçut à plusieurs reprises une flamme voltigeant autour du ballon et qui bientôt s'y introduisit par l'orifice inférieur; un cri d'effroi s'élève de toutes parts, au même instant un énorme globe de feu couleur de sang et une légère détonation ne laissent plus de doute sur l'épouvantable accident dont madame Blanchard est victime. Précipitée du haut des airs, elle est rapportée sans vie, peu d'instants après, au lieu même de son funeste trompe. Elle était dans sa 43<sup>e</sup> année et venait d'effectuer sa 67<sup>e</sup> ascension.

Madame Blanchard était née avec l'amour des arts et une finesse de goût qui lui concilièrent l'attachement d'une foule d'artistes distingués qui se plaisaient à recueillir ses observations toujours judicieuses. Elle n'était pas moins recommandable par les qualités de son cœur, et l'on cite un grand nombre de traits qui font honneur à sa délicatesse et à sa sensibilité.

Blanchard



GRAND AEROSTATIC BALLOON.

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in which M<sup>r</sup>. Blanchard, on Sat<sup>r</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>m</sup> 1784, ascended from the Royal Military Academy at Little Chelsea, a fourth Time into the Atmosphere, accompanied by the ingenious M<sup>r</sup>. Sheldon, at Ten Minutes after Twelve; the two gallant Adventurers preceded by two small Balloons as Signals, after taking leave of their generous Host & a numerous Circle of Nobility & Friends, arose with the most majestic grandeur & wafted by the prayers & plaudits of upwards of Four Hundred Thousand Spectators, in Eighteen Minutes were lost in Air, after a number of astonishing manœuvres & Evolutions the Travellers made a stop at Sunbury, where for the expediting the Machine the gallant Sheldon (unwillingly) descended & left his friend to pursue alone his Journey through "the tractless void," who after passing over Guildford Farnham &c. about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, finding the day too far spent to cross the Channel to Brux, after hovering a considerable Time over Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight &c. alighted at Romsey near Southampton and amidst universal acclamations finished by far the most extraordinary Journey ever performed by a Sublunary Being.



## RIVAL BALLOONS,

*Journal Stubs. Peters Court. St. Martin.*

*June 13.* BALLOON and PARACHUTE. 1785  
AEROSTATIC ACADEMY near VAUXHALL-TURNPIKE.  
MR. BLANCHARD is extremely flattered  
to find that the company who honored him with their  
presence at his Academy on Friday se'nnight last, were so amply  
gratified with the experiment of the Parachute or large Umbrella;  
having received very numerous and pressing solicitations  
to repeat the experiment, they will be complied with next  
Wednesday, if the weather permits; he will send up a  
sheep into the air, attached to a Balloon, from which, by  
means of a peculiar machine, which will be shown and explained  
by Mr. Blanchard, to the company, it will be disengaged  
from the Balloon, when it has attained a very considerable height,  
not less than a mile perpendicular, and will then  
descend to the earth with so much levity, that the animal  
will not sustain the smallest unseens in the descent; the  
Balloon, at the same time, will, by another piece of mechanism  
be sufficiently emptied, and come to the ground near the  
spot where the Sheep is to descend.

The place of experiment is very extensive, and replete with  
every kind of accommodation for the company.  
Mr. Blanchard is under the necessity of requesting that no  
attention may be paid to contradictory bills posted against the  
walls, or distributed in the coffee-houses, as was done on  
the day of his last experiment.

Tickets, Five Shillings each, may be had at the Academy,  
or at No. 70, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields.

*June 13.* When once weak woman go astray, says the poet, and true enough even in their dress, the deviation is dangerous. We daily observe this in the present rage for hats—for no sooner did they stray from the old decent fashion, than ten thousand vagaries were introduced, which bid fair to end in a parachute as big as Mr. Blanchard's. Let our sweet countrywoman reform it altogether, for at present they wear no hats—but at present they walk under pent houses!

Mr. Blanchard's balloon, which escaped a few days since from his ground at Vauxhall, as it did not take up a sheep, is expected to be on its way to the Ram, which is situated in the Zodiac.

When Blanchard's balloon took flight without the sheep, which it was intended to carry up, it was ingeniously remarked of the spectators who had paid, "that the sheep were left below."

Upwards of five hundred people were in Blanchard's ground to see the sheep, which he meant to send up to the clouds, all of whom complained bitterly of being fleeced!

The balloon which broke loose from Blanchard's Aerostatic Academy, was found in one of Plaistow marshes. *June 20. 1785.*

AIR BALLOON WORK BAGS.  
MR. BLANCHARD's Balloon and Vessel  
having, from its neatness and delicacy, met the superior approbation to any thing of the kind, Mrs. HILLS,  
No. 89, Great Portland-street, Mary-le-bone, has invented  
a Work Bag, the exact model, the vessel of which serves as  
a Pincushion or Housewife. This Balloon is so contrived,  
from its elasticity, as to expand or collapse at pleasure; and  
having already met with the patronage of her Grace the  
Duchess of Devonshire, and several of the first Nobility,  
begs leave to acquaint the Public in general, that she keeps  
one for the inspection of those who may please to favor her  
with their countenance, and at the same time may have the  
opportunity of viewing gratis, an Exhibition of Stained  
Glass, the beauty of which, from the amazing effects in  
the different pieces, strikes every person with admiration, particularly where the sun is introduced in the church pieces.

Most Grand and Magnificent AERIAL EXPERIMENT and DIVERSION, with a PARACHUTE, or Umbrellas.

*THIS DAY*, Wednesday, July 13th, after so many unsuccessful attempts have been made by several Aeronauts, to convey safe Living Beings, from a certain height, upon ground, with a Parachute, even though of light weight, the Advertiser (an Italian Gentleman) will launch himself from a Prodigious Altitude.

At Mr. BLANCHARD's Aerostatic Academy,

South Lambeth, near Vauxhall.

Between the Hours of Two and Three in the Afternoon.  
So perfectly sure is the Advertiser of his safety, in this experiment, under such flights as the Parachute or Umbrella, newly invented and contrived by him, that he proposes, while on his descent, to play some favorite tunes on the violin, and arrive upon ground with the greatest ease and composure. He need not adduce to this intelligent nation, that such experiment must, in the sequel, be found of great and public utility, as well as of the greatest diversion, especially when unattended, as he shall prove, without any fear of personal danger.

Tickets for admission, Half-a-Crown each only, to be had at the Academy.

No satisfactory view can be had of the process of the experiment in any places outside of the Academy.

It is not to be wondered, as Mons. Blanchard's Balloon lately took wing without its conductor, that he should now fly off without his Balloon! *June 2. 1785.*

# FLYING VESSEL.

MR. BLANCHARD most respectfully informs the PUBLIC, that the Vessel in which he lately ascended into the Atmosphere, in Company with an ENGLISH GENTLEMAN, F. R. S. and in which he had already made Three aerial Voyages in France, is now to be seen at

CLAYTON's AUCTION ROOM,  
King-Street, St. James's-Square.

Where his most curious GLOBE, and the APPARATUS employed on the Day of his Experiment at CHELSEA, are to be exhibited for the Inspection of the Curious, until the Day fixed for his FIFTH VOYAGE, which will be advertised in all the public Newspapers.

Admittance ONE SHILLING.

\*\* Mr. Blanchard will every Day have the Honor to attend personally in the Room, FROM TWELVE TO FOUR o'CLOCK, to answer all Questions that may be put to him by those Ladies and Gentlemen who would wish more minutely to inspect his AERIAL VEHICLE, and enquire about the Particulars of his several Voyages; the longest of which has been the last, having performed a Journey of Seventy-six Miles in little more than Four Hours; the last Hour he travelled at the Rate of THIRTY MILES AN HOUR. Nov. 1784.



BLANCHARD'S BALLOON.

Fig. 3.



The aerial excursion of Mr. Blanchard last <sup>Dec. 2. 1784</sup> Tuesday makes the twenty-sixth journey which has been taken in the air by different persons since the first expedition on the 21st of November 1783, by M. Pilatre de Rozier, from La Muette. The first female who ventured into the atmosphere was Madame Tible, at Lyons; and the persons who travelled farthest, and continued longest on their voyage, were Messrs. Roberts and Hulin, who were six hours and 40 minutes going from the Tuilleries to Bethune, in Artois, distant from Paris about 160 miles.

Yesterday at a quarter past two o'clock, Mr. Blanchard returned in a post-chaise and four, from Dartford, in Kent, where he landed from his balloon on Tuesday about dusk. Dec. 2. 1784

Dr. Jeffries, though an American, has given so many proofs of his attachment to this constitution, that we were greatly surprised at the report of his having displayed, on his ascension with Mr. Blanchard, a banner with thirteen stars, as a symbol of the American States; on enquiry, however, we find that gentleman waved an English ensign, while Mr. Blanchard sported in his aerial career the Devonshire arms.

## THE LONDON CHRONICLE for 1784.

### BLANCHARD'S BALLOON.

MR. Blanchard having been disappointed in his aerial experiment on Monday, on account of the weather; and it clearing up unexpectedly yesterday morning, he used the utmost diligence in making preparations for his intended voyage, to gratify the curiosity of a prodigious multitude of people who had assembled on the occasion. The Rhedarium in Park-street, Grosvenor-square, was the place from whence the balloon ascended. The process of filling began about eleven o'clock, and about half past two was completed. The Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and a very large party of Ladies and Gentlemen, their friends, were present. The Duchess and the Ladies were dressed in blue and buff ribbons.

After the operation of filling the machine had been completed, Mr. Blanchard and Dr. Jeffries, a person of fortune, from America, of great literary talents, took their seats in the vessel, and the two last cords were held by the Duchess of Devonshire and another Lady. Dr. Jeffries displayed an Ensign called in the naval world a jack, in one of the quarters of which thirteen stars, the symbol of America, appeared; Mr. Blanchard carried an English ensign; and with these appendages, they saluted the company on the first ascent of the aerial vessel.

Before Mr. Blanchard made his final experiment, a small balloon, with a blue and orange cockade, and held by a blue ribbon, was let off by the Duchess of Devonshire as a signal, and to observe what course it took. About twenty minutes before three, the grand machine arose, and the voyagers made two attempts to ascend, but came down again; upon which Mr. Blanchard used his oars, and when he got above the height of the stable, found it necessary to throw out some ballast, to avoid striking against a chimney; by which means the vessel was evidently lightened, as it instantly towered, and appeared quickened in its horizontal progress.

Having surmounted every difficulty, the balloon pursued its course in the atmosphere, and made a very beautiful progress over the metropolis. It did not rise to a great height, and at periods was so regulated, as to appear almost stationary; particularly over Grosvenor-square and other places, where great crowds were assembled, and where the voyagers waved their flags, and politely saluted the spectators. The day was somewhat hazy; but as the atmosphere was serene, at the height the vessel steered, the motion of the sails and oars could be distinctly observed. The wind was westerly, inclining a few points to the north; and it blew so gently, that it required very little of that skill which Mr. Blanchard is known to possess, to keep him at that elevation which would be most likely to gratify the whole town, the utmost length of which he must have traversed. The exercise of the oars seemed evidently to accelerate his motion; and he expressed a determination to let the balloon take as far a course as possible, while he had a ray of light to guide him. The navigators were provided with sufficient refreshments, instruments for observations, and defences against the cold and inclemency which they expected to experience; and from the philosophical abilities of Dr. Jeffries, the Public may expect to be highly gratified.

Soon after Mr. Blanchard's balloon was launched, two small balloons were let off, which ascended perpendicularly with great velocity. They passed the large balloon, which at that time was going almost horizontally; and thereby proved that the large balloon was not under the influence of the wind, but under that of Mr. Blanchard himself, who was guiding it.

Dr. Jeffries, in a letter to a friend, gives the following account of the voyage:

"I wrote you far, very far above the clouds. We have had a short, but most noble and enchanting voyage of twenty-one miles, over

Shooter's-hill, &c. &c. and landed on the banks of the Thames, in the parish of Stone, in Kent, within half a mile of Essex. Our motion was very rapid, and all our ballast expended."

Mr. Blanchard appeared to have so perfect a command of his balloon, that he crossed and re-crossed the Thames several times, undetermined which side of the river he should land upon, and at last fixed on a spot called Stone Marsh, near Ingrefs, the seat of the late Mr. Calcraft, a few miles beyond Dartford in Kent, where he landed about ten minutes before four o'clock, and arrived in town about two o'clock on Wednesday with his balloon, which he safely lodged in his late room in King-street, St. James's.

Mr. Blanchard and Dr. Jeffries, we understand, were forced to come down on account of the extreme chillness of the atmosphere, which they felt very inconvenient and distressing.

Mr. Blanchard, before his ascension, was offered the sum of 200 guineas by a Gentleman of the Middle Temple, for liberty to accompany him across the Channel; but he politely declined the offer, as it was his determination to make that aerial excursion without a companion.

Though Mr. Lunardi has profited by the public favour, for having been the first who visited our variable atmosphere, Mr. Blanchard is by far the most expert and accomplished aerial traveller. Besides being an exquisite mechanic, he is the inventor of that species of oars, or wings, which alone have been hitherto found of any material utility; and upon the whole we may observe that his second tour in England does him great honour, and was a much better spectacle than his first.

The Prince of Wales, who was present in Mackenzie's Rhedarium during the whole process, expressed the highest satisfaction, and heartily joined in the loud acclamations which bid the navigators farewell.

The Duchess of Devonshire had sent to the ingenious adventurer for an hundred tickets for her party the day before, and seemed highly gratified on this occasion.

Mr. Blanchard, with his air-balloon, descended on Tuesday afternoon, about ten minutes before four o'clock, at Stoney-Marsh, within two miles of Dartford, in Kent, and returned from thence yesterday to London in a post chaise, with two flags flying, and part of the apparatus of the balloon, and passed in procession through Fleet-street about half past two o'clock in the afternoon. Dec. 9. 1784

The flight of Mr. Blanchard, on Tuesday, was accompanied with several circumstances that did great honour to that spirited foreigner. After his first exertion with his fellow-traveller, to try, as it were, the power of the balloon, before the stay-ropes were loosened, he came down again, and received from the hands of the three Graces united in the person of the Duchess of Devonshire a pair of colours, bearing the arms of the family. After having waved it, in compliment to the graceful donor, Blanchard returned to his aerial boat, and ascended into the atmosphere in all that awfulness with which the fate of two men suspended between Heaven and Earth, can inspire a sensible spectator.

The Gentleman who accompanied Mr. Blanchard in his flying vessel, we hear, was Dr. Jeffries, a person of fortune, from America, and of great literary talents.

The aerial excursion of Mr. Blanchard last Tuesday makes the 26th journey which has been taken in the air by different persons since the first expedition on the 21st of November, 1783, by M. Pilatre de Rozier, from La Muette. The first female who ventured into the atmosphere was Madame Tible, at Lyons; and the persons who travelled farthest, and continued longest on their voyage, were Messrs. Roberts and Hulin, who were six hours and forty minutes going from the Tuilleries to Bethune, in Artois, distant from Paris about 160 miles.

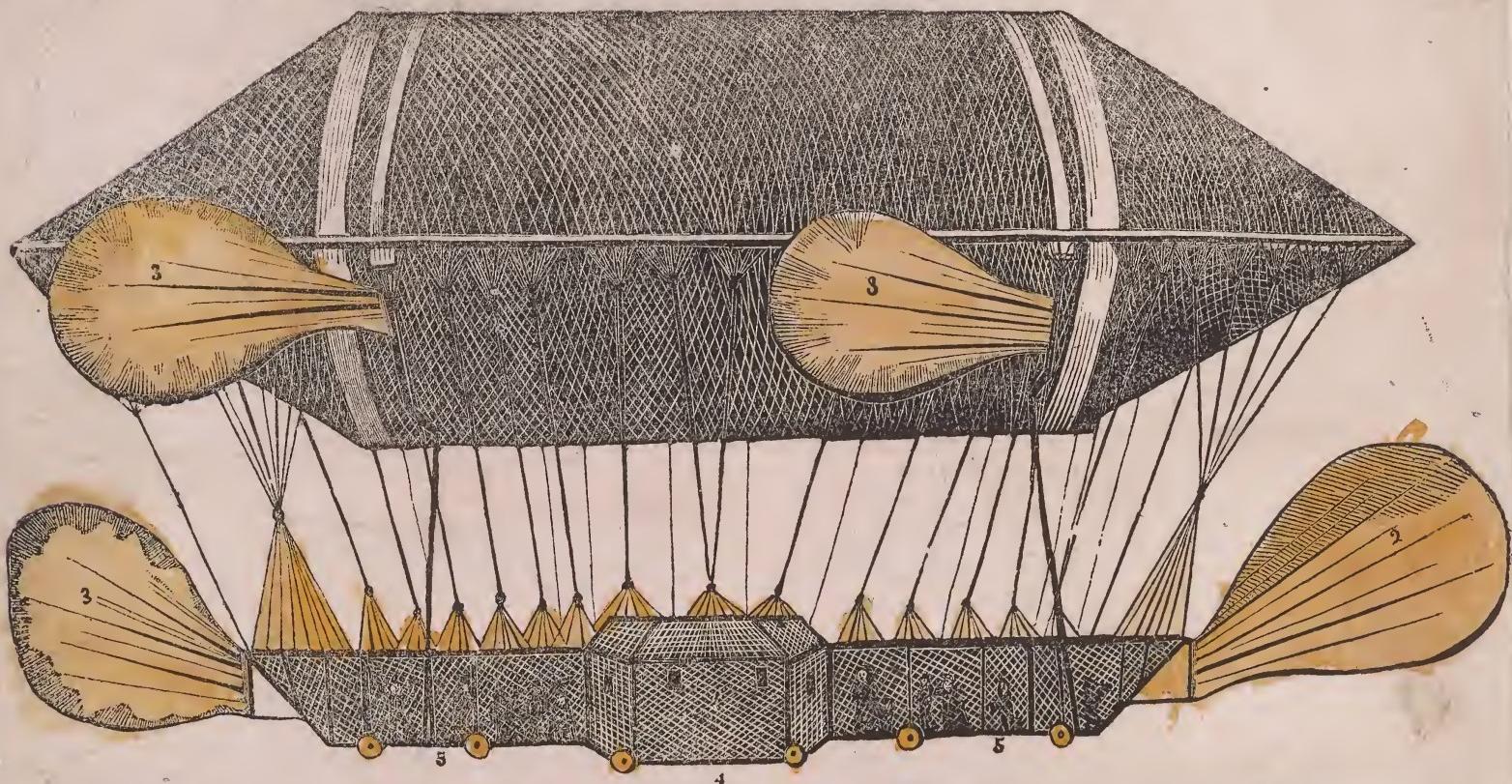
From the most improved experiments for filling air balloons, it appears, that one pound of the English vitriolic acid, mixed with five pounds, or pints, of water, is sufficient to dissolve the like weight of iron shavings. Each pound of acid thus dissolved produces three cubic feet of inflammable air. Dec. 9. 1784

The above process, which was the same M. Blanchard made use of in his fifth voyage, corresponds with the estimate calculated two years since at Uppal, in Sweden, by the late great chemist Sir Torbanus Bergman, from which it appeared a cubic inch of iron produced a cubic foot of inflammable air—or from 1720 to 1730 times its own bulk.

The chemist who has taught almost all the aerial voyagers the most expeditious manner of filling their balloons, is the ingenious Mr. Attard, a citizen of Geneva, who invented the simplest method of producing the inflammable air, from using a number of casks. M. Montgolfiere lately adopted his method; also Messrs. Charles and Robert, and, lastly, M. Blanchard. As this Gentleman's name has scarcely been heard of among all the aerial experiments, to the success of which he so essentially contributed, it is an act of justice and candour to give his name to the Public.

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# THE AERIAL SHIP!



## An Interesting Account of the above Stupendous Balloon

CALLED "THE EAGLE,"

Which is shortly to ascend from KENSINGTON, with 17 Persons, and sail thro' the Air from LONDON to PARIS, and back again.

IT may be in the recollection of our readers, that in August 1834, the public papers gave an account of the Aerial Ship intending to sail from Paris to Hyde-Park Corner; but unfortunately, just at the moment of its expected ascent, it suddenly turned topsy-turvy, and burst with a loud explosion! The Parisians being thus disappointed of beholding the long-promised *spectacle*, outragiously rushed upon the fallen balloon, and instantly tore it in pieces, and carried it off in portions, which were exhibited and sold in Paris, in the course of the afternoon.

Count de Lenox (the ingenious projector of the Aerial Ship) although thus defeated was not dismayed, and resolved to try his fortune on English ground. Accordingly in March last, he arrived in London, and engaged a spacious piece of ground in Victoria Place, Kensington, where he is now exhibiting his stupendous machine. As the Count de Lenox is a man of talent and enterprise, and profoundly skilled in the science of aerology, no doubt can be entertained of his accomplishing his herculean task.

This Balloon is intended to leave London for Paris in August next, which it is expected to be accomplished in six hours. It is 160 feet long, 60 feet high, and 40 feet wide, and to be manned by a crew of 17 persons. The purpose for which it is constructed, is to establish a direct communication between the several Capitals of Europe.

The ordinary balloon is, from its shape, wholly at the mercy of the winds, as a tub is of the waves; the Aerial Ship is capable of direction, although like its namesake of the deep, must depend for its velocity upon the wind. Its inventor, wisely turning to nature for a model, found one in the fish; and, in fact, the work should be called the Aerial Leviathan, or the great Air Serpent. It will be seen the body is oblong, and at either

end it runs off to a point. This vast reservoir of gas is made of cotton fabric, thoroughly varnished so as to be air-tight. Suppose it to ascend into the air, being filled with gas, and specifically lighter than the atmosphere, it would naturally lie lengthwise in the direction of the wind, its greater lateral surface yielding until its end should lie before the wind's eye. As long as the wind remained in the same quarter, it would move on without turning, or winding round. If the wind should prove only slightly contrary, the inventors of this machine hope to keep their course by means of two fins or wings near each end of the machine, of broad surface and light construction, and also by means of a fan-tail or rudder, intending to act after the manner of a fish. This tail is fastened not to the balloon itself, but to the car in which the voyagers take their places, and which being made of net-work and as little solid material as possible, is suspended beneath. It is long and narrow, and in the mid-way is the cabin for holding the machinery for moving the wings or fins. But should the wind prove contrary, and there can be no doubt now that the atmospheric currents are frequent and fitful, then nothing is left the voyagers but to descend towards the earth. It may be remarked, that by a partial descent an unfavourable may be changed for a favourable current. One of the most satisfactory of the whole machine, is that which renders ascent or descent perfectly easy. Here again the economy of the fish's construction is had recourse to. Within the balloon is a smaller air-balloon, to correspond with the air-bladder of fishes. This can be filled or exhausted at pleasure by very simple means. If it be filled with atmospheric air the gas in the cylinder may be compressed to such a degree, that what with the ballast in the car, the whole machine becomes specifically heavier than

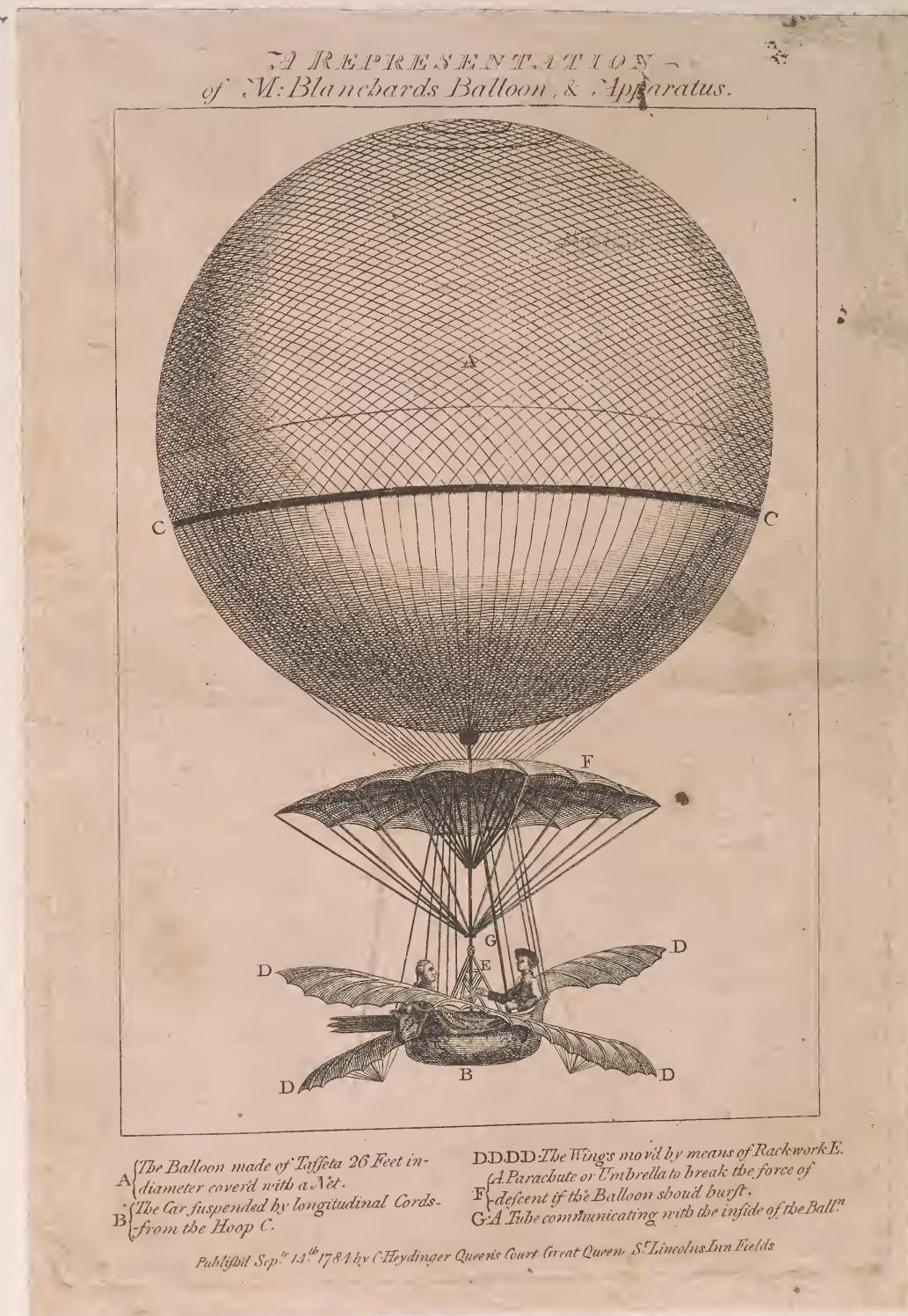
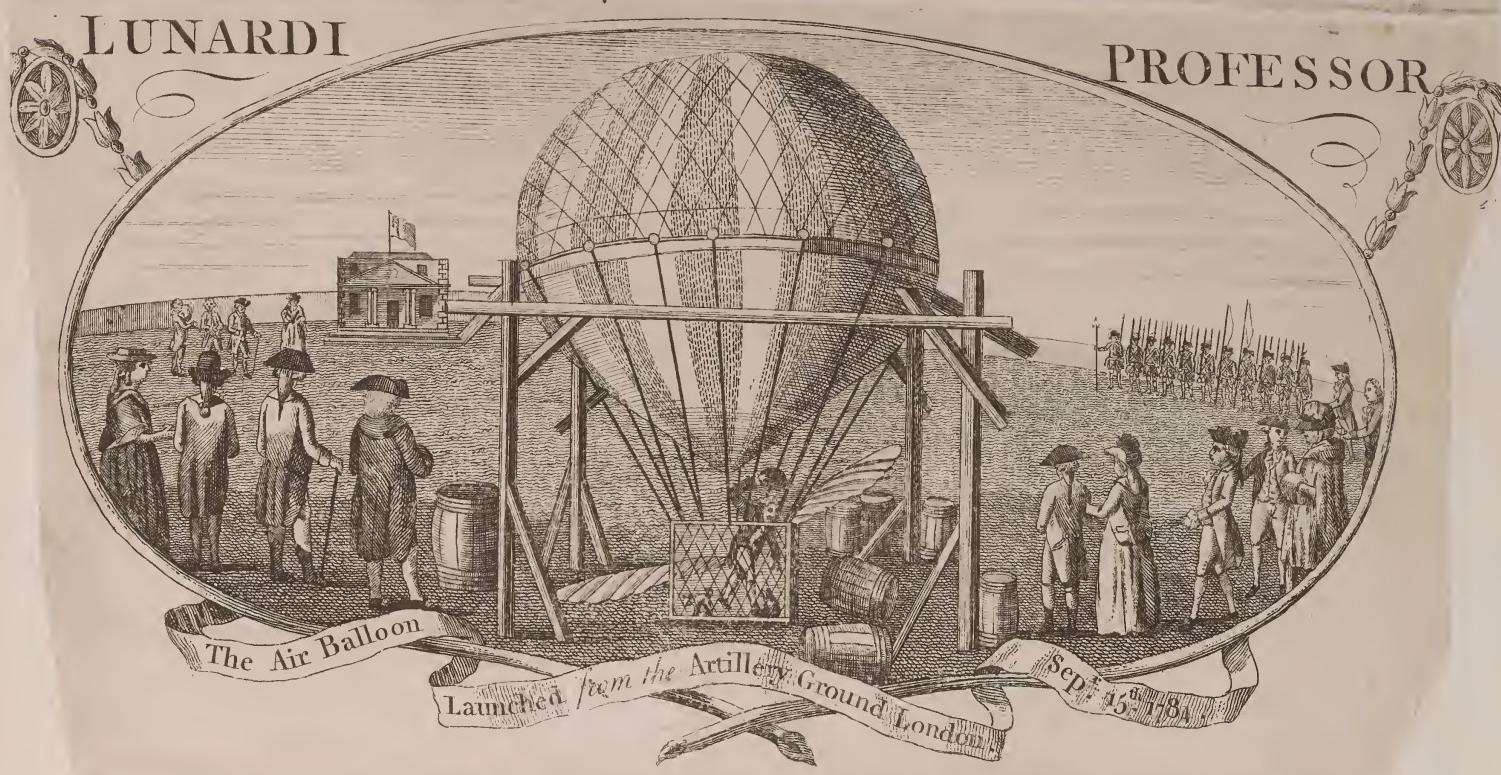
the air around it, and it descends accordingly. Should they wish to ascend, the small air balloon is exhausted—the gas expands—the cylinder is of less specific gravity than the air, and rises. The result of the whole experiment seems to us to amount to this. The Aerial Ship will, with a fair wind, go rapidly any distance its crew desire—but it is liable to frequent delays. In either case, it is safe. It cannot be turned to any very useful purpose, inasmuch as vast as is its bulk, it can but accommodate some twenty persons—one half crew and one half passengers. The passengers can never pay for the expenses of the immense quantity of gas which is requisite to fill the cylinder. Thus, uncertainty—great, but not so great as that in a common balloon—and expense must, upon a general calculation, countervail the advantages of its occasional velocity. Exhibition before, and at starting, may contribute to its outlay, but that only while it is a novelty. Count de Lenox calculates on being ready for the voyage the latter end of this month, or beginning of next. They are but making an experiment, in which they deserve encouragement. Some three years ago, they made the first trial in a smaller machine, and sailed from Paris, 127 miles across France.

It is intended to make similar trips to Brussels, Amsterdam, Berlin, Munich, Madrid, &c. till the practicability of establishing an aerial communication between London and the other capitals of Europe is fully and incontrovertibly demonstrated.

In 1796, Mons. Campenus proposed the construction of a similar balloon, for Buonaparte, in which he intended to hover over the English fleets, and throwing downwards firebrands made of a substance which would kindle only by coming in contact with the ships, and so destroy them.

### Explanation of the References in the Engraving.

1. The body of the balloon, or cylinder, containing a smaller air-balloon, and the gas.
2. The fan-tail, or rudder, to steer with, made of cane, and covered with gas.
- 3, 3, 3. Wings, made of lawn, and netted over: they, as also the rudder, are worked by machinery enclosed in the cabin.
4. The cabin, which contains the machinery.
5. The sides of the ear, secured with lattice-work for the protection of the voyagers, while perambulating or making of observations.





### GRAND AEROSTATIC BALLOON

in which M. Blanchard, on Sat<sup>r</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>m</sup> 1784, ascended from the Royal Military Academy at Little Chelsea, a fourth Time into the Atmosphere, accompanied by the ingenious M. Shildon, — at Ten Minutes after 12 o'clock, the two gallant adventurers preceded by two small Balloons as Signals, after taking leave of their generous Host & a numerous circle of Nobility & Friends, arose with the most majestic grandeur & graced by the prayers & plaudits of upwards of Four Hundred Thousand Spectators, in Eighteen Minutes were lost in Aether after a number of astonishing manevvers & Evolutions the Travellers made a stop at Sunbury, where for the expediency the Machine the gallant Shildon (unwillingly) descended & left his friend to pursue alone his Journey through "the tractless void," whr after passing over Guildford Farnham &c. about 3 o'clock in the afternoon finding the day too far spent to cross the Channel to Brest, after hovering a considerable Time over Portsmouth the Isle of Wight &c. alighted at Rumsey near Southampton and amidst universal acclamations finished by far the most extraordinary Journey ever performed.

## C E R T I F I C A T E II.

Of M. BLANCHARD's Third Aerostatic Experiment, in company with M. BOBY, drawn up at the time of their departure from the Old Barracks, at Rouen.

ON this day, the 18th of July, 1784, M. BLANCHARD made his third Aerostatic Experiment in the court of the Old Barracks at Rouen.

The Barometer stood at twenty-eight Inches and three Lines(\*); REAUMUR's Thermometer at twenty Degrees. The air was clear (†), though cloudy, and the wind in the North-West. At fifteen minutes past five the Balloon ascended, with M. JEAN-PIERRE BLANCHARD, and M. DOMINIQUE-BERTRAND-JOSEPH BOBY, *Greffier au Parlement de Normandie*, the Companion of his voyage, in the presence of a very brilliant and numerous Assembly. In testimony of which this Certificate was drawn up the same day and hour.

(Signed) CAMUS DE PONT CARRÉ, Premier Président.

THIROUX DE CROSNE, Intendant.

DE BELBEUF, Procureur Général.

DE LA LONDE, Président.

BIGOT, Président.

BIGOT DE SOMMERSNIL, Président.

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OURS.

## C E R T I F I C A T E III.

Of the Descent in the Plain of Puissanval.

MESSIEURS BLANCHARD and BOBY descended at thirty minutes past seven, by their watches as well as ours, in the Plain of Puissanval, near Grandcour, at fifteen Leagues distance from Rouen, having previously descended, and reascended three times, at pleasure, by means of their wings; for the purpose of affording to an infinite concourse of the Inhabitants, (who followed them for some time) an opportunity of seeing part of their manœuvres. The Inhabitants, on their part, being desirous to return this act of complaisance, testified a wish, which in fact was executed, of bearing them along in their Vessel, from the Plain of Puissanval to the residence of the Rector, distant about a quarter of a league, where, having arrived and alighted, they were entertained to their satisfaction(\*). This Certificate was drawn up and read to all the Inhabitants, whose signatures are annexed, as well as to the Rector of the parish of Linemare, who was present.

(Signed) FORTIN, Prêtre, Curé de la paroisse de Puissanval.

JOUAS, Curé de Linemare.

LUCREST, Syndic de la paroisse de Puissanval.

DESHAYES.

CHARLES BRUNARD.

DETREMONT, Syndic de Frénay.

SOULET, & F. BAUVRIN.

(\*) It may be observed, that the Travellers were so surrounded by the Inhabitants, that it was impossible to repel them, except by threatening to ascend again into the air, if they did not curb their enthusiasm.

C E R T I -

LE ROUX D'ESNEVAL, Président.

PIGOU,

LE COQ DE BEUVILLE,

THOMAS DU FOSSE,

HECAMP DE COLTOT,

L'Abbé DE LA CAUVINIERE,

BIGOT DE MELMONT,

BERTOT DU BOSCHEROLDE,

MORIN D'AUVÉR,

ASSELIN DE CREVECŒUR,

CHARLES, Substitut.

MARESCOT, Procureur-Général à la Chambre des Comptes.

L'Abbé DE VIENNAY, ancien Conseiller au Parlement de Paris, & Abbé Commendataire de l'Abbaye de Tupernay.

HAILLET DE COURONNE, Lieutenant-Criminel.  
Le Chevalier DE VILLENEUVE, Lieutenant-Colonel du Régiment d'Artois.

Le Comte DE TERSAC, Major.

GODEFROY, Curé de Ratiéville.

VALLET & D'ALBAN, tous deux Directeurs de la Manufacture des Acides de Javel.

AUMONT, Curé de Hottot-sur-Dieppe.

LE FEBVRE, Receveur général du Tabac à Dieppe.

PILLORÉ.

DU NEVIL HARD.

LE BRETON.

HELLOT.

L

LE ROSLE.

PONTUS.

CHAPELLE.

RENARD.

BASSELIN.

DUBOSC, Concessionnaire des Mines aux Pyrénées.

CHAPELLE le jeune.

TIERCELIN.

PHILIPPON.

BEAUFILS.

CURMER.

FOUQUES.

LEGRAUD.

SELOT.

BLIN.

BEZUEL.

SULMONT.

F

CERTI-

NEVAL, Président.  
VILLE,  
SSE,  
OLTOT,  
VINIÈRE,  
L MONT,  
THEROULDE,  
ER,  
EVECEUR,  
titut.  
ocureur-Général à la Chambre des  
NAY, ancien Conseiller au Parle  
Abbé Commandataire de l'Abbaye  
URONNE, Lieutenant-Criminel  
LLENEUVE, Lieutenant-Colonel  
SAC, Major.  
Curé de Ratiéville.  
LBAN, tous deux Directeurs de la  
tides de Javel.  
de Hottot-sur-Dieppe.  
ceveur général du Tabac à Dieppe.

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L E.  
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R D.  
L I N.  
C, Concessionnaire des Mines aux Pyrénées  
ELLE le jeune.  
ELIN.  
PPON.  
ILS.  
ER.  
ES.  
ND.  
NT.

CERT

#### C E R T I F I C A T E IV.

Of what passed after leaving the Rector's residence at  
*Puiffanval*, till their arrival at the Chateau de *Folny*.

MESSIEURS BLANCHARD and BOBY, after their arrival at the Rector's house at *Puiffanval*, were invited by many of the principal Nobility and Gentry in the neighbourhood ; among whom were M. & Madame la Marquise de BROSSARD ; M. & Madame DUDOUET ; Madame d'IMBLEVAL ; Madame la Comtesse de BOUBERS, & Madame DES VALLOURS.

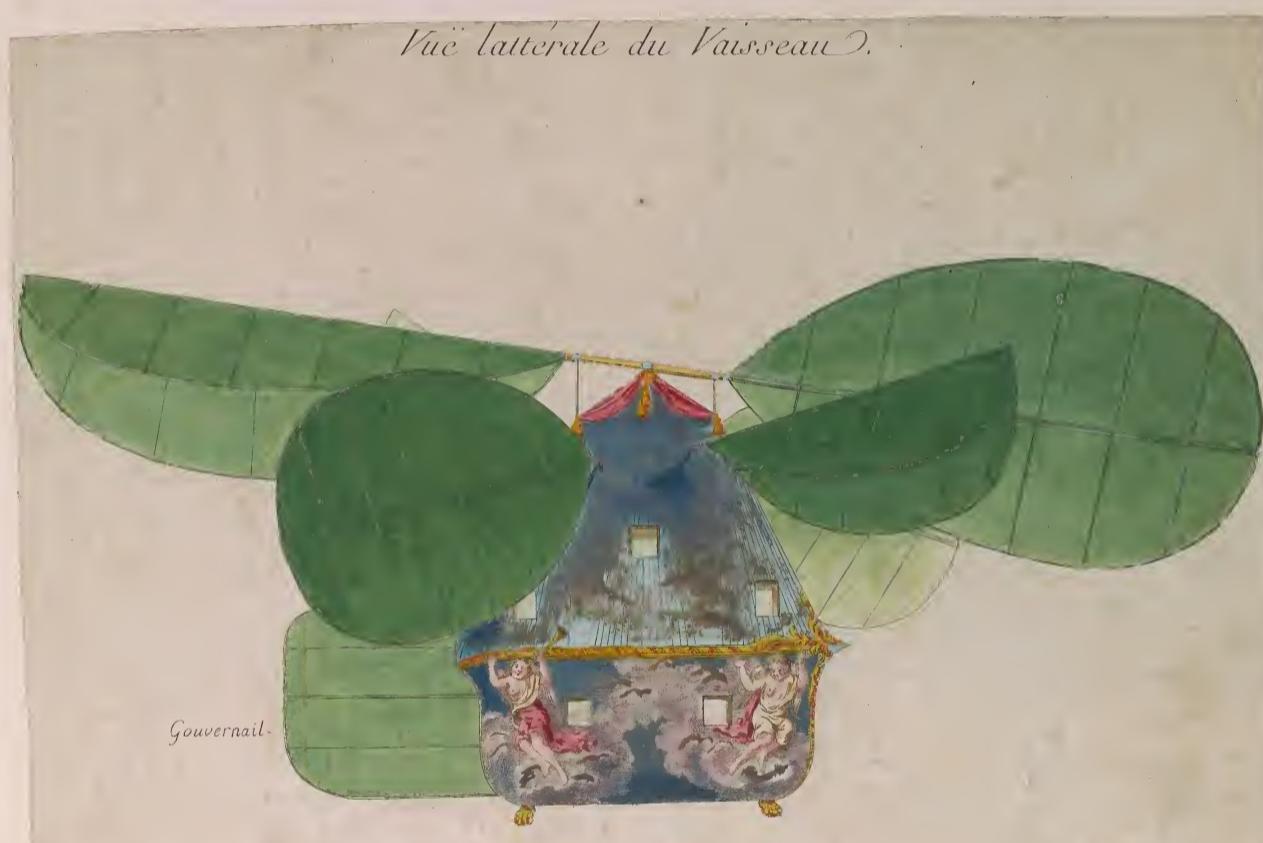
Having thanked the Rector of *Puiffanval* for his civilities, they accepted the offers of M. and Madame DUDOUET. It was impossible to restrain the Inhabitants from again carrying them in their Vessel from the Rectory at *Puiffanval* to the Chateau of M. and Madame DUDOUET, and it was agreed among them to support it only on the tips of their fingers ; which they effected without finding the least burthen. Having arrived in this manner at M. DUDOUET's house, which was about half a league distance, they supped in company with the Marquis de BROSSARD and his Lady, who with permission of M. and Madame DUDOUET, engaged them to sleep at their seat at *Folny*, three quarters of a league distance, which they accepted on condition, that Madame la Marquise de BROSSARD and Madame de JEAN would supply their places in the Aerial Carriage.

This was agreed to, and they were borne along by the Inhabitants to the castle of *Folny*, where on their arrival, they descended from the Vessel. The Machine was deposited in the garden, and ballasted to the amount of six hundred weight, which was hardly sufficient to keep it down, owing to a very fresh sea breeze.

*Vue d'avant  
du Vaisseau volant.*



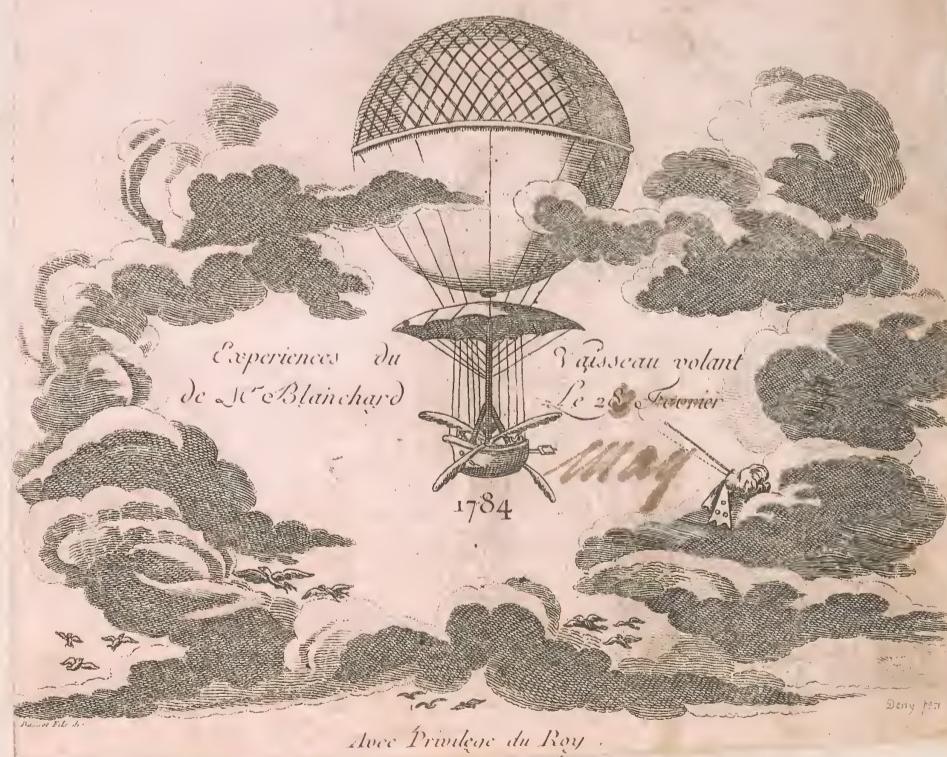
*Vue latérale du Vaisseau.*



Le Vaisseau-Volant de M. Blanchard Renferme une Méchanique ingénieuse qui, au moyen des leviers et des poulies mises en mouvement par les pieds et les mains du Pilote avoit dans ce Vaisseau, agité les ailes à l'imitation des Oiseaux, ensorte que, quand les unes sont relevées, les autres sont abaissées, nous en donnerons les détails, après l'expérience faite en public.

chez Martinet rue St Jacques

SIC ITUR AD ASTRA



(\*) A fall of four Inches and six lines of the Barometer, gives, according to HALLEY's Experiments, about 1470 yards in height, and in seven minutes, is at the rate of about seven miles an hour. [Second Edit.]

(†) Twenty-eight Degrees of FAHRENHEIT. [Second Edit.]

(\*) At the height of 2610 yards, near one mile and an half. [Second Edit.]

(†) Nine Degrees of REAUMUR are nearly fifty Degrees of FAHRENHEIT. [Second Edit.]

(\*) At twenty Inches of the Barometer, the Degree of cold was about fifty Degrees of FAHRENHEIT. [Second Edit.]

(†) At the height of 1960 yards. [Second Edit.]

(§) Twelve Degrees of REAUMUR's Thermometer, are about fifty-six Degrees of FAHRENHEIT.

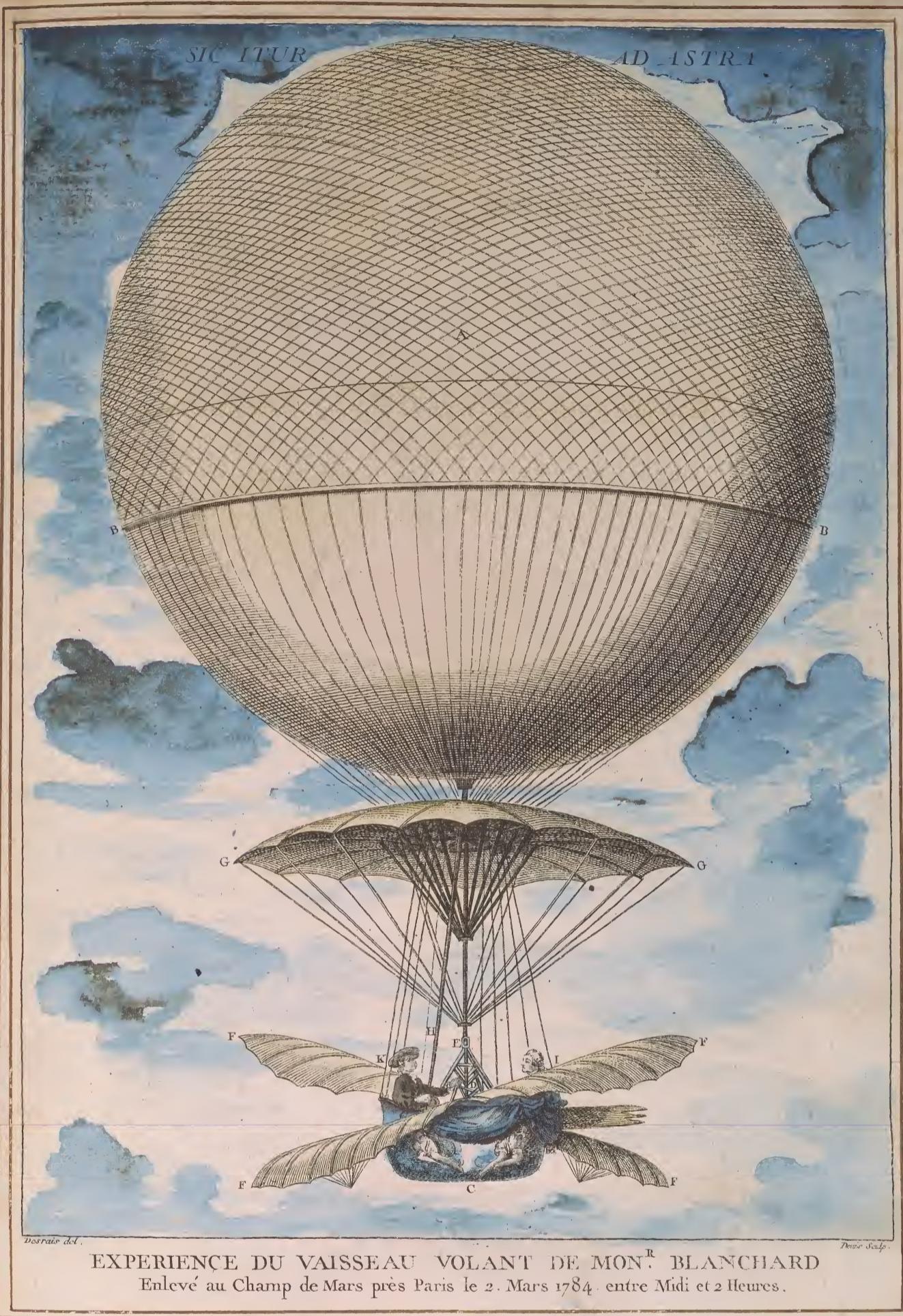
[Second Edit.]

We were only one hour and three quarters in our *direct* course; half an hour being spent in hovering over the City of *Rouen*.—I observed that in the greatest rapidity of our course, a lamp would not have been extinguished, and thence I conclude, that sails adapted to an Aerostatic Machine would never swell.

(Signed) BLANCHARD,  
BOBY.

The following is the English Weight of M. BLANCHARD's whole Apparatus, at the time of his Ascension from the Court of the Old Barracks at *Rouen*; viz.

	lib.
The Globe and appendent Tube, about	114
The Net and large Hoop,	71
The Vessel and Cords by which it was suspended,	84
M. BLANCHARD,	124
M. BOBY,	113
Provisions and Ballast,	235
Total,	741



A. Ballon de Taffetas enduit d'une composition neuve portant 26 pieds de Diamètre B. Appendice du Ballon portant 12 pieds de longueur et 6 pouces de Diamètre C. Le Vaisseau garni du Parassol et de ses Ailes et généralement de toutes son Armature; à 7 pieds de longueur, 3 pieds de largeur, et 3 pieds et demi de hauteur, pese 120 livres. D. Moulinet dont les bras ont 15 pouces et demi E. Arbre de fer de 3 pieds de long, il y a 2 arbres de fer chacun de 3 pieds de longueur indépendant F. 4 Ailes de 8 pieds de longueur, tenant 2 à 2 sur la même base G. Parassol pour garantir tout danger, de 16 pieds de diamètre H. tuyau qui communique l'air enflammable I. M. Blanchard K. Compagnon de voyage.

Echelle de 24 Pieds.

*l'an de l'autre*

*2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 P.*

Se vend à Paris chez Basset, Rue S. Jacques au coin de celle des Mithurins. Avec Privilège du Roy.

Extract of a private letter, dated Paris May, 21, 1782

"This is the time to say with our great R<sup>é</sup>pine 'EH! QUEL TEMPS PUT JAMAIS PLUS FERTILE EN MIRACLES!'—Wonders indeed will never cease; and all our good Parisians are gaping at the sight of new miracles. If you remember any thing of my former letters to you, you will recollect that a few months ago I gave you information of a man who had the natural gift of finding out springs and other hidden treasures of the earth.—This I delivered upon hearsay; of what follows I speak as an eye-witness.—A countryman, blindfolded, armed with a switch cut from a fibertree, has, in the presence of the Magistrates and above five hundred people, followed the course of the aqueduct D'Argenteuil; but so true to the various meanders of the stream, as not to deviate in his walk one single lieue from its course underground.—What perhaps will appear to you more extraordinary, and seems to me unaccountable, is, that this man stopped short at one place, and, resting himself on his wand, or switch, declared, that the spring ended at that particular spot: being, however, encouraged to go further, he, a few steps above, found once more the current of the Spring. The magistrates present having ordered the ground to be searched in those two places, it proved, that in the latter, the water ran freely; but that in the former, some planks were laid across, which prevented the effect of the Baculumancy:

"This fact is too well authenticated to be in the least questioned; but the cause of this phenomenon, whether it proceeds from a natural sympathy or antipathy between the man and the water is worth the investigation of your profound philosophers, to whom I strongly recommend it; and here goes one.

"The second is yet in embryo, but will, I hear, be in a few weeks perfectly compleated, it is the work of a Mr. Blanchard, a very ingenious mechanic; it consists in a boat so framed, and provided with such springs, as to be able by means of one man only, to fly or rather swim in the air, and keep such course, as the airy pilot shall direct. Attempts have been made before, to take those cloudcapt journeys, and Icarus is the first madman upon record, who ventured on a bold pinion, to fly through the air; God grant Mr. Blanchard may prove more successful than the son of Dedalus!

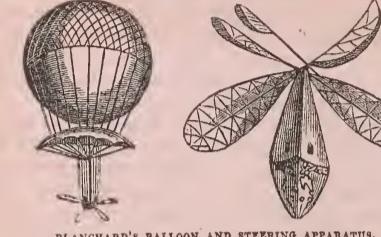
"The third, parisian wonder, and the last, tho' not the least, I shall speak of, is to be wrought by the celebrated, and not less unfortunate Monsieur Linguet. This gentleman, whether his long abode in the Bastile has turned his brains, or the desire of getting out of it, has made him conceive, that every thing was possible, has transmitted to the ministers, a memorial, stating a method by which intelligence and orders might be conveyed to and from Brest in the space of twenty minutes; how this is to be effected, is a mystery for the solving of which, the disinterested pleader only asks his freedom; but so far I can tell you; that it is not by the firing of cannon, which, as the inventor observes, do their work but too well, and are calculated to destroy, not to instruct; nor by signals or dubious fires, but by a private agency, which at present is a secret locked up in the breast of Monsieur Linguet. There let it remain till the author is pleased to give it life.

"A fourth article, which even the court enthusiasts will call in question, is, that our ministers would make the world believe, that though we have been beat in the West-Indies, it is for the better. Dr. Pangloss himself would not persuade us into a disbelief that it looks very much like the worse for us; and we, to a man, conclude that the appointment and bad success of De Graffie is in reality for us the *coup de grâce*.—Forgive the pun; it is too true to make a joke of it."

#### PARISIAN INTELLIGENCE.

##### 1784 AEROSTATIC GLOBE.

THE second of March, being the Day appointed for the Experiment of M. Blanchard, every thing was prepared for it in the Middle of the Champ de Mars. He had issued an immense Number of Tickets, and the Place was crowded with all Ranks of People. His Machine was ingeniously contrived. The Balloon was constructed on the Principle of Messrs. Charles and Roberts; and had Wings and Helm, the Mechanism of which was curious and philosophic. By applying the Principles of Mechanics to the Discovery of the Air Balloon, it was his Project to shew that it was practicable for Man to navigate the upper Regions of the Air. The Adventurer had prevailed on a young Physician, Dour Pech, a Benedictine of St. Martin des Champs, to go with him as his *Compagnon de Voyage*, for the Purpose of making Experiments on the Atmosphere. When every thing was ready forth ir Attempt, about a Quarter after Eleven o'clock, the young Gentleman seated himself in the Car, with a drawn Sword in his Hand; his Enthusiasm struck the Spectators with Terror, and they endeavoured by every Means, but in vain, to prevent his going up. The Tandem was excessive and outrageous; and in pressing on the Machine the Wings were broken, and the Globe itself very much injured. But all these Obstacles could not deter them from their Flight—They cut the Ropes, and the Machine mounted into the Air; but a deal of the Gaz in the Globe being dissipated by the Damages it had received from the Mob, they came down, and Dour Pech very unwillingly resigned his Seat. Blanchard thus left to himself, and strip of all the Means of directing the Machine, would have postponed his Experiment; but, in his Account, he says, in the true Spirit of a Frenchman, "I was under the Eyes of the Public, and my Honour was pledged."—His Helm was still perfect. He mounted with great Rapidity, and rose to an astonishing Height. The Wind was high, and he was carried over Passy—There came, he says, a sudden Calm, and he remained stationary for fourteen Minutes—He then passed the River, during all which Time the Clouds were under him, and he experienced another Calm which lasted about 15 Minutes, and during which the Sun was very warm. A contrary Gale then sprung up, and he was carried with extreme Velocity towards Montrouge; in this Direction he tacked four Times by means of his Helm. Perceiving that his Globe was diminishing by the Loss of Air which it had sustained, and that he was descending, he threw out four Pound Weight of his Ballast, and he remounted—To prevent his coming down in the River, he threw out the rest of his Ballast, and at length descended in the Plain of Billancourt, after having been in the Air an Hour and a Quarter; in the Course of his short Excursion he experienced, he says, extreme Heat, and afterwards extreme Cold; a very sharp Appetite, and a strong Disposition to sleep. His Arrival was witnessed by a Crowd of Spectators, and he drew up the Account of his Journey in the Presence of the Duc de Fronfaz, and the Marquis de Laigle, de Montaignac, de Montesquieu, and de Reaulx. In regard to the Question, whether it is possible to direct the Aerostatic Machines in the Air, M<sup>r</sup>. Blanchard says, that though deprived of the principal Part of his Machinery, his Wings, yet by means of his Helm, and Tail, he was able not only to withstand the Rapidity of the Gale, but also to accomplish what none of his Predecessors have effected, the sailing, in Reality, against the Wind.



BLANCHARD'S BALLOON AND STEERING APPARATUS.

M. Blanchard, who afterwards acquired great celebrity as an aeronaut, and whose attention had long been directed to the invention of mechanical aids to the aerial voyager, made his first attempt in March 1784, at Paris, in a balloon filled with hydrogen gas. Through the fears and imprudence of his companion, after having risen a few feet from the earth, they descended with a severe shock; but Blanchard, who now took the sole management, rose to the height of a mile; and, after having been driven through various currents of air during nearly two hours, he descended in safety.

A very curious relation is given in some of the foreign papers of a voyage made in a balloon on a new plan, with wings and sails, by M. Blanchard, at Rouen, of which the following is an extract:

"I ascended from the old barracks of Rouen on Sunday May 23, at 20 minutes past seven. The weather was extremely fine, with few clouds, the wind S. E. I passed over the Seine, intending to direct my course towards Versailles; but a contrary wind preventing me, I went over a village called Illeauville. I crossed a small cloud, which affected me a little, and soon after a larger one, that wetted me considerably; it appeared like a thick mist, in which I could discern neither earth nor sky; 12 min. past 8, I left the cloud with a rapid movement upwards. The sun again appeared, but did not prevent my feeling a very cold sensation, nor my clothes from freezing on my back. In this temperature of the atmosphere I ran about two leagues in ten minutes. Perceiving a very thick cloud, a little below me, that seemed stormy, and imagining that I could also discern the sea, and was rapidly approaching both, I moved my wings, and descended gradually, at my own discretion, taking advantage of a calm to eat and drink. About 600 yards from the earth, I saw a most beautiful country which I judged to be a plain in the environs of Rouen; for I had passed the mountains without being aware of it, every thing from the extreme elevation appearing to me on a level. The city of Rouen resembled a parcel of stones, of about half a foot square. The face of nature appeared delightful, and I contemplated it with inexpressible satisfaction. A superb forest invited me to skim over it, but the near approach of night, and the lightning that seemed to be brewing under my feet, made me determine on a descent. I then swept the earth above a quarter of a league, at the distance of 100 feet, at the end of which I touched it gently. No one was present at my descent; I was sitting quietly in my balloon, and making my last observation, when several of the country people came up, and assured me of the fidelity of my watch, by which it was 20 minutes 17 seconds past eight. They informed me of the name of the place, which was Motteville Claville, four leagues and a half distant from the place of my departure.

"I had almost forgot to mention, that the country people came armed, and one of them had loaded his gun, in order to fire at me, taking my balloon, as they told me afterwards, for some strange animal; others were so terrified, that they could scarcely be induced to approach me.

"Signed, BLANCHARD."

M. Blanchard, who entertained Paris some time ago, with the promise of an aerial navigation, by means of a flying machine, is now employed in applying the principles of his discovery to the principles of the Air Balloon. In his advertisement he says, that his discovery was defective. He contrived means by which he could navigate the higher regions of the air, if he could get thither. The god like Montgolfier has opened the communication, and he has appointed an early day of March for his experiment. He means to sail with the wind, and steer his vessel against it. His subscription is full, and we wait with impatience for the return of good weather, that he may take his flight.

March - 1784

The public will learn with indignation, that the occupiers of some nurseries, in the neighbourhood of Lord's Cricket Ground, advertise they will erect and balloon go off this day. After the proof of courage and generosity displayed by M. GARNERIN, in his ascent from Ranelagh, it will be scarcely credited that such a means of reimbursing those heavy expences which his experiment involves.

July 3, 1802



Ascended from Lord's Cricket Ground, Marylebone, on Monday, July 5, 1802, with Mssrs. Garnerin and Locker; the Weather being extremely wet and cloudy; they, in three Minutes became invisible, & in a quarter of an Hour descended at Chingford Green, in Essex, a distance of 9 Miles. The greatest Height they attain'd was 7,800 Feet.

C. Fox, Delin.

Publis.

#### GARNERIN'S BALLOON.

July 5, 1802.

The fine spectacle presented by the late ascent of this celebrated aeronaut at Ranelagh excited an universal desire to behold the more arduous enterprise of his descent in the parachute which was advertised for Saturday. The people accordingly flocked from every side towards Lord's Cricket Ground, and though bills were posted at the Pantheon, so early as twelve o'clock, to signify that the high wind rendered it necessary to defer the ascent till Monday, yet so few had seen them, or had received any information of the postponement, that Baker-street, and the other avenues leading from Oxford-street to the new road, were quite thronged with carriages, and foot passengers about three o'clock, when a torrent of rain poured on the unfortunate multitude, in which few had had the prudence to provide against it, though they had sufficient notice of its approach by the gloominess of the sky, and the fall of several lighter showers in the earlier part of the day. A scene of inconceivable confusion immediately ensued. Five or six persons crowded under every umbrella, and in their struggles to shelter themselves under it, without regarding who was the right owner, derived no other advantage from it than receiving the rain in copious streams, instead of separate drops. Carts which had been hired out to some who wished for an elevated situation, became now so many reservoirs, and those who were in them wished in vain that they were inverted, while others crouched beneath them, without waiting to bargain with the owners for this unlooked for species of accommodation; many sought refuge beneath the bodies of coaches, and coach horses, trusting more to the impossibility of moving in the crowd than to the humanity of the coachmen. The female pedestrians afforded a most affecting appearance of distress; abandoned in many instances by their swains, who, in this moment thought only of themselves, unwilling to risk their muslins in the rude retreats, where the men were content to hide themselves, they remained exposed to all the fury of the tempest, which in a few minutes drenched that light and elegant drapery intended to float not in the deluge that now deformed it, but in the gentlest breezes of the fairest morning, adding grace to the shape which far from concealing, it would scarcely be said to cover. One advantage indeed was enjoyed, though possibly not felt by those whose dress is but a system of display; their robes clung so closely to them that every variation of figure was perfectly distinguishable. The fair inhabitants of Baker-street and Portman-square being early apprised of the postponement of the ascent, remained at home, and consoled themselves with beholding from their windows the animated caricature which seemed to be given to them, as an indemnification. Upon the whole, we have not witnessed such a sight since the review on his Majesty's birth day, in 1800, and that of yesterday was probably of a higher kind than the other. M. Garnerin himself felt extreme disappointment, not only in not being able to afford the promised gratification to the assembly, but still more in the sufferings even of those, for such almost exclusively were the sufferers, who were but gratuitous spectators of the entertainment, which he had prepared at so great an expence. In order that no second disappointment may be experienced in any thing that depends on him, he declared his positive determination to ascend at any rate this day; but unless the weather proves fair, he will not come down in the parachute. Captain Sowden, who seems to have become enamoured of aerial voyages, from his last trip, intends to accompany him, if the weather should be such as to permit only a common ascent without the parachute.

#### GARNERIN'S BALLOON.

July 6, 1802.

A considerable degree of disapprobation having been expressed by the multitude on Saturday, at M. Garnerin not ascending, he, on Sunday publicly advertised that he would ascend yesterday although the weather should not prove favourable, although it might be impossible to attempt the descent by the parachute. It was likewise advertised that Captain Sowden would accompany him, but which proved to be a mistake on the part of M. Garnerin, as he misunderstood the Captain in the conversation he had with him on Saturday on the subject in the Cricket Ground. The Captain, however, yesterday morning, in the most handsome manner, told M. G. if he could not get any body to accompany him, sooner than he should be without a companion, he would go with him. In the course of the morning M. G. received a letter from a lady, offering to accompany him; to which he returned for answer, he should wish to have an interview with her before he gave his consent—but the lady did not make her appearance. M. G. also had the offer of several gentlemen to accompany him; among them were Mr. Carberry, the son of an artificial flower manufacturer, and feather-seller, and a gentleman of the name of Browne. The latter was fixed upon by M. G. to accompany him: we understand this is his balloon name, but that his real name is Beck, and that he resides in Oxford-street.

About 12 o'clock the operation for filling the balloon commenced; at half past three M. Garnerin arrived on the ground, and inspected the operations, and assisted in filling the balloon. He did not appear in the least dismayed at the unfavourable appearance of the weather, although it rained very hard, and the wind blew a brisk gale.

About a quarter past four the Prince of Wales, with the Duchess of Devonshire on his right arm and Lady Morpeth on his left, arrived on the ground. They were followed by Lord and Lady Beaufort, Lord and Lady Cathcart, Lord and Lady Cholmondeley, and Lord and Lady Wm. Russell, Lord Chatham, Lady Holland, Lady Melbourne, Mrs. Erskine, Mr. and Mrs. Hare, and a great number of other Noblemen and Gentlemen of distinction.

M. Garnerin and Capt. Sowden having met with great difficulties in their late excursion from Ranelagh when they landed, the people supposing them to be impostors, M. Garnerin applied to the Prince to sign a certificate of his being the man who went in the balloon, &c. which his Royal Highness agreed to in the most condescending manner. His signature was followed by that of the Duchess of Devonshire, Lord Cathcart, and Sir Richard Ford.

During the preparation, the wind was so extremely boisterous that it was with the greatest difficulty four ropes could support and a great number of men could keep it down; three men got into the car to endeavour to steady it, but without effect, and it was tried if it would rise with three men in it, but it was found to be impracticable. If it could have been managed, Mr. Carberry would have been the third man.

About half past four M. G. thought the balloon sufficiently filled and in a proper state for rising, and Mr. Brown got into the car. M. G. then dressed himself in a jacket, in which he always makes his aerial excursions; he took a tumbler of rum and water, and took his seat. Just before he entered the car, Lord Cathcart and Lord Stanhope wished him a pleasant voyage; the latter shook hands with him.

All the cords being cut but one, the wind had such great power over the balloon, that it swung so much as to touch the ground several times. It resembled a ship at anchor in a tempestuous sea. About a quarter before five a signal gun was fired for their ascension, M. G. having intimated that every thing was arranged to his satisfaction. The last rope which held it was cut, and the balloon ascended in a most steady and majestic style, considering the heavy rain that fell, and the high wind; the balloon took its course towards Highgate, but was out of sight in two minutes. The voyagers were only observed to throw out ballast once; they had only two flags, which they waved with great spirit, all the rest having been lost on the excursion from Ranelagh, the populace gave them several huzzas as they ascended.

#### M. GARNERIN.

July 6, 1802.

YESTERDAY, in consequence of his engagement with the Public, M. GARNERIN made the necessary preparations in Lord's Cricket-ground for his aerial ascent. The hour fixed for the ascension was four o'clock. For two or three hours previous, immense crowds of people in carriages, on horseback, and on foot, were collecting in the streets, roads and fields in the vicinity of that place. The concourse of people certainly exceeded every thing that had been seen upon any former occasion. The early part of the day was fine, but towards the afternoon rain came on, and as the hour approached it increased in a great degree. This probably occasioned a delay in the ascension beyond the hour fixed upon in the advertisement. At ten minutes before 5 o'clock M. GARNERIN at length ascended.—He was accompanied by a M. ZOTTI, who we understand is a Dutchman. The ascent was extremely grand and gratifying; but from the thickness of the weather, in about four minutes, the Balloon was lost in the clouds. Their journey we hope was a pleasant one. The wind was W. S. W. at the time of their ascent, and seemed to direct them towards Suffolk. They would have land enough before them in that direction to permit a long excursion, from which we hope they will have landed in perfect safety. M. GARNERIN, we are decidedly of opinion, is entitled to the admiration and protection of the British Public.—He has proved himself to be scientific and enterprising, grounds of pretension which can never be overlooked by the People of this Country.

Notwithstanding the immense pressure of people and crowd of carriages, we are hopeful few accidents may have happened. An over-drawn carriage unfortunately got into the New Road, and tossed some persons; among whom was a fine youth of about fourteen years of age, who had both his arms broke. The gardeners in the neighbourhood of Lord's Ground most unjustifiably erected scaffolds that overlooked the space in which M. GARNERIN was carrying on his process. These scaffolds being insufficiently constructed, some of them gave way, and several persons were materially injured by the fall. It was disgraceful to the Nation that M. GARNERIN should thus be defrauded of the profits of his adventure, and not very honourable to the vigilance of the Police, that scaffolds should be permitted to be raised that might endanger the lives of His Majesty's subjects.

July 1, 1802

AIR-BALLOON.—This Day is published, Price only Sixpence (embellished with a beautiful coloured Plate), A Full and accurate account of the TWO AERIAL VOYAGES made by M. GARNERIN, on Monday, June 28, and July 5, 1802; including the interesting Particulars communicated by Captain Sowden and Mr. Locker, who accompanied M. Garnerin; as written by themselves. To which are prefixed, the Origin of Balloons; the method of constructing, filling, and directing them through the atmosphere; and an account of the several aerial Adventures, to the present period. Together with a Sketch of the Life of M. Garnerin.

Printed and published by A. Neil, Chalton-street, Somers-town; and may be had of all other Booksellers.

Mess<sup>r</sup>. Garnerin & Socher  
Ascending from  
LORDS CRICKET GROUND  
on the 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1802.



Eng'd & Pub'd by Innes jun'r N<sup>o</sup> 10 Adams Court Broad Street near the Royal Exchange.  
Price 6<sup>d</sup> Plain  $\frac{1}{2}$  Coloured. July 15<sup>th</sup> 1802.

THURSDAY, July 22, 1802.

BALLOONERY.

Last night M. Garnerin was compensated for his manifold disappointments since he came to England. He was retained by the Proprietors of Vauxhall Gardens to let off a Night Balloon; and the weather was as friendly on this occasion as it had been unfavourable when his former experiments were attempted. There was scarcely a breath of wind, and, though it was extremely dark, the atmosphere was uncommonly clear.

Vauxhall Gardens were crowded at an early hour. We have very seldom indeed witnessed so much beauty and festivity at this advanced period of the season. What they had formerly seen appeared only to have whetted their curiosity—and all were on the tip-toe of expectation.

The concert concluded about eleven, and the company immediately flocked to the Eastern walk. On the stage, at its extremity, the balloon was visible. It looked exactly like an immense Windsor pear. In a few minutes it was allowed to rise to about the height of thirty yards. The various fire works attached to it could now be discovered distinctly. Every thing being ready, the fuse was lighted, and the balloon ascended with the most wonderful velocity. At first it took rather a northerly direction, and seemed even to have crossed the river, but it immediately after returned to the south, and hovered exactly above the Gardens.

It had now risen to such an immense height, that scarcely a glimmering of light could be perceived, and every body was afraid lest the fuse was extinguished, and the balloon without taking fire would fly off into the distant regions of space. But in the midst of this anxiety the fireworks in a moment began to go off, and a sight was exhibited which it is impossible for the liveliest imagination to conceive. Wheels, rockets, tourbillions, bombs, &c. succeeded each other, till the fire at last reached the balloon itself, when a grand explosion took place, and the whole horizon was in a blaze.

"A flood of glory burst from all the skies."

We never witnessed such rapture as the spectators expressed. A very grand display of fire-works followed, by Signor Ruggieri. The gardens were most brilliantly lighted up, and a grander evening Vauxhall has never seen.

The crowd of spectators without the walls was far greater. The highways and lanes in the neighbourhood were filled, from side to side, and Westminster Bridge for half an hour was almost completely impassable. During the explosion the balloon must have been visible at any place within twenty miles of London.

No fewer than four publications have appeared upon Balloons. If any of our Readers wish to be informed upon this subject, we would recommend them one called *Aerostatics*. It contains a particular account of the Aerial Voyages that have been made, and gives the fullest directions for making those machines. It has a very good Plate by ROBERTS, representing M. GARNERIN descending in a Parachute, and its price is only one shilling.

July 27. 1802.

THE BALLOON.

To the PRINTER of The St. J. CHRONICLE.

July 28. 1802.

SIR,—  
PERMIT me to congratulate you as well as the Publick, on the revival of the Balloon. You will agree with me when I remark, that Editors of Newpapers, those indefatigable provisors for our intellectual entertainment, are sometimes barren of incident, and that during the dearth of other provision, they are reduced to the disagreeable necessity of recounting the most marvellous events they can find. Such being the details that are read with the greatest avidity.—An Infant swallowing a knife with two blades, and first voiding the handle by the mouth, and one of the blades by another passage, while the second blade was waiting to be dissolved in the little stomach, appears to be an Anecdote taken up merely for want of one more capable of exciting the publick astonishment. Now, Sir, a Balloon is unquestionably a wonder-exciting object of a much superior order, and the Navigators of it deserve our very great admiration and surprise, both on the score of personal courage, and ingenuity of mind. Yet allow me to hint to these adventurous voyagers, that they might do much more to excite our amazement and gratify our curiosity, if they could rarify themselves and their machine in such a manner, as to rise entirely beyond our solar system, and arrive at those extra regions, so celebrated by the great Author of *Paradise Lost*. This, Sir, is not by any means, a jaunt so impracticable as you may imagine it. If universal tradition may be credited, it has been frequently explored; nay, it has been said, that some even of my own timid sex, have boldly ventured into the region of vanity. Many discoveries exceedingly curious might here be made by the aerial voyagers; and I can assure you, that their travels would be read by none with more avidity, than many of my own female acquaintances, who would no doubt hear of many articles of their property being found there, which they looked upon as irretrievably lost; and I for one, should be much more entertained by your intelligence from thence, than by a story even surpassing the *Infant and the Knife*, in the marvellous. It would be a very desirable object, if some regular mode of communication could be established between that region and our terrestrial globe, as by this means many curious things lost on earth might be recovered. Not only the poets of the day, and I may also say those of half a century back, would find their account in it, but also the works and opinions of many learned Judges, grave Moralists, and deep Metaphysicians might be recovered, which are now scarcely to be found even in the upper shelves of a publick library, or the windows of a snuff-shop. There would be no want of constant employment to the correspondence, as new-year and birth-day odes, with a variety of similar productions of genius yearly, I had almost said, weekly, disappear from our planet. If my persuasions can have any effect in inducing the heroes of the air to undertake this journey; they shall be accompanied by my best wishes for their success, and safe return.

While they renew the travels of Astro to the Moon, upon his Hippogriff, when he ev'ry day that region to bring back the lost wits of Orlan de Astro, I sincerely hope, that no future Aeronaut will have to undertake a similar voyage on account of M. GARNERIN and his companions, but that their wits will also return to this earth, and not remain in the clouds, after their bodies have descended from the aerial regions.

This voyage, Sir, is most devoutly to be desired, for the benefit of the Bull family, and likewise for the benefit of the Readers of Newspapers, in which number is your very constant friend—

OLIVIA.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE AIR BALLOON.

A PIC-NIC ODE.

By BARDD CLOFF; July 6, 1802.

HENCEFORTH to France let Britain yield  
The glorious point of castle-Building;—  
But not those uncouth fabrics, shielding  
Rebellious Lords, or Barons bold;  
As witness'd oft in days of old;  
Where steel-clad Knights were wont to wield  
With giant-arms the massive lance!  
No!—nor those castles stately floating  
On the vast deep with sails uncurl'd,  
—The admiration of the world!  
Built (by many a skilful stroke)  
Of native British heart of oak!  
The palm in these I'm not for voting  
So condescendingly to France;  
But yet (to give the Devil his due, is fair);  
The French can always best build castles in the air!

Scar high, my muse, and try to follow  
Fam'd GARNERIN's aerial flight;  
Exert thy nimblest wings aright;  
Or his balloon will beat thee hollow!  
Behold, he mounts his swinging car;  
Join'd by a gallant British Tar!  
Triumphant they ascend together,  
In spite\* of envious wind or weather.  
Lo! High among the tow'ring clouds,  
Now like a brace of Gods they ride!  
Feasting—not on the empty air—  
But sumptuously on pic-nic fare!  
Whilst their proud waving flags deride  
Earth's creeping things—the gazing crowds!  
To them St. Paul's majestic dome  
Soon seems diminish'd to a gnat,  
Ten thousand feet aloft they roar,  
Swift as an eagle in pursuit of prey,  
Cutting through trackless air an easy way,  
Yet ev'n can hear our gossips chat!  
Or, with keen eye, behold a wren or thrush,  
Perch'd on a spray of Epping's goosey' bush!

The angry clouds, altho' unable  
To cope with the undaunted flying pair,  
That dar'd to invade the regions of the air;

Discharg'd their ire on those below,

Who came in crowds to see the shew,

And drench'd alike the hapless muslin'd faire,

The squeamish beau, and motley rabble

Assembled for a precious stare!

Who 'gainst the ruthless vengeance of the rain,  
Sought shelter from their silken shields in vain.

But now, my muse, descend and change thy tune,

Now must thou chant of things below—

Sing of disasters full of woe!

Like those beheld the famous fourth of June,†

When London's gallant volunteers

(Despising all ill natur'd sneers,

With bairns waving in the air,

Wrought by their leaders' ladies fair)

Bravely stood their ground in arms

Against most dire and dread alarms—

Till Gen'l Rain's superior force

Caus'd the brave gay clad ranks to yield;

Made ev'ry woman, man, and horse,

Fly from the delug'd slipp'r'y field;

Forc'd many heroes, highly tir'd,

To use the musket for a prop;

Whilst others faint and hungry fir'd

Pop—pop—pop!

Thus now amongst the gazing throng

A scene concurse'd of uproar dire,

The dripping fair ones tripp'd along,

Up to their tott'ring knees in mire!

Their robes clung like transparent paste,

Close as a leech to the slim waste,

Displaying forms—man's soul to charm!

What heart from love could then refrain?

They made the stoic's bosom warm,

Amid the chilling wind and rain,

A finer treat, to peeping beaux, by far,

Than see the Frenchman mount th' aerial car!

As towards home the groups repair'd,

All eyes upon them rudely star'd,

Yea some, who were not of the crowd,

Maliciously would laugh aloud!

The milliners—those pretty little thieves,

Smil'd too, with countenances quite bewitching!

And many tatters, grinning in their sleeves,

Were seen, as on the shopboards they sat stitching.

New caps, new gowns, new coats, all seem'd to say,

Must now become the order of the day.

The doctors too, whose primness scarc ye,

And ev'ry stiff-back'd pothecary,

Ihad visibly some lively traces

Of joy indented in their faces.

Some counted what they'd gain by cold,

And argues that would soon abound,

In pieces of most precious gold,

To the sweet tune of many a pound!

And thus th' aerial shew a charming thing was found!

\* M. Garnerin in his advertisement said, that he would positively ascend on the day appointed, in spite of wind or weather.

+ The grand review in Hyde Park the 4th of June, 1800.

For The ST. JAMES'S CHRONICLE.

A Frenchman accounted to his friend for the ascent of M. Garnerin's Balloon at the present time, by observing "that it was customary in this nation always to send up a balloon at the Dissolution of Parliament." This ingenious remark gave occasion to the following Lines:—

July 1802.

O! late, when London in amaze,

Ran all into the fields to gaze;

While o'er St. Paul's, on clouds besprent,

The Aeronautic Heroes rode;

"Mon Dieu! what monster in the skies!"

Jacques to his kinsman shrugging cries,

"Pogh! answer'd Monsieur with a sneer,

That's nothing strange in England here:

The fiery gas to warm debate,

That's stor'd within St. Stephen's gate,

And oft makes such a rout therein,

As frightens Europe with the din;

If let, when Parliament is out,

A broad, might ravage all about;

And therefore for the publick good,

A wife precaution is pursued;

The fiery vapours yet unspent;

In air-balloon are always pent;

Then from the earth are borne on high,

To Milton's realm of vanity."

M.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE PARACHUTE.—AN ODE.

(BEING INTENDED AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE AIR BALLOON, A PIC-NIC ODE, PUBLISHED IN THE MORNING POST, 31ST OF JULY LAST.)

By BARDO CLOFF.

AGAIN, my Muse, prepare to sing,

Again prepare thy wings for flight;

Sonr—and bedim a mortal's sight—

Trace GARNERIN's stupendous swing!

His praise to all the world declare,

And crown him Emp'ror of the Air!

On pleasing London gazers bent,

At last, he made his bold descent;

Plung'd downward from the lofty sky,

The curious world to gratify,

And set our beaux and ladies roving!

Yea—bent on giving *Dandy Bull*,

At last, his honest belly full,

Of AIR BALLOONING!!

On ev'ry side were steadfast eyes

Devoutly turn'd towards the skies:

I can not folks their sins repeating,

Or weeping widows, quite forlorn,

The loss of husbands dear lamenting,

Or children, from their bosoms torn;

But num'rous gazing ey's uplifted

From crowds, like rapid torrents, drifted,

To have a sight of GARNERIN,

Descending in the grand machine,

That would so elevate his fame,

Or break his neck—'twere all the same!

For thousands, in sweet dust besmeared,

Fill'd all the spacious streets around;

Nor did a single spot of ground

(Excepting only the Parade,

Where none could peep, unless they paid \*)

Remain uncrowded!

The cobwebb'd trapdoors open flew,

And soon each roof was well beset,

CAPTAIN SOWDEN'S ACCOUNT

OF THE LATE  
AERIAL EXCURSION.

July 4  
1802

As numberless questions have been put to me respecting the sensations I experienced while in the upper regions, I think it a duty incumbent on me to inform the Public, and to set them right as to the erroneous ideas they have of an aerostatic voyage. On our first ascending, we felt a few drops of rain. After we had gained the height of about 3000 feet, I desired Mr. GARNERIN not to ascend any higher till he had passed the metropolis, that the inhabitants might be gratified with a full view of us. When we had got at a small distance from London, we ascended through some very thick clouds, of which I could perceive three distinct rows, at the lower one of which we found the quicksilver of the thermometer at 15 degrees, and I was obliged to put on my great coat; but on ascending still higher, we found the air more temperate, and the quicksilver rise gradually to 5 degrees above summer heat. We then seemed to be stationary, and feel no more motion than one would feel in sitting in a chair in a room. I then proposed to Mr. GARNERIN to overhaul our lockers, where we found a ham, a cold fowl, a cake, and two bottles of orgeat, wines or spirits being dangerous to take, owing to the rarefaction of the air. The chill of the clouds having given us an appetite, we made a table on our knees with the seats of the car, and ate a very hearty meal. The clouds then dispersed from under us, and we had a delightful view of the country. Whether it is owing to the rarefaction of the air, or to the strong light thrown on the earth, I cannot determine, but I found that my sight, which at all times is rather weak, became so strong, that I could easily distinguish the minutest objects on the earth: it appeared like a vast panorama, or map, or about fifty miles in circumference, where we could not only follow with our eyes the different cross roads and intersections on it, but even distinguish the ruts on them, and the very furrows in the field. The sense of hearing was stronger here than on earth; for, at the height of 15,000 feet, we could distinctly hear the rattling of the carriages on the roads, the lowing of cattle, and the acclamations of the people who saw us; though at the same time we could hardly hear ourselves speak; and I am persuaded, that a person on the earth, with a strong voice and a speaking trumpet, might make himself perfectly understood by any person at that height in the air.

I have observed, that almost every sensation I experienced while in the upper regions, was exactly contrary to what is the general opinion of the Public. I was assured by a number of the most celebrated *litterati*, who pretended to be very learned on that subject, that I should find the cold increase, the higher I ascended; instead of which, I found the heat increase to that degree, that I was obliged to take both my great coat and jacket off. It is also the general opinion, that looking down from so stupendous a height renders a person so giddy as not to be able to keep his seat: on the contrary, I found that I could look down with a vast deal of pleasure, and without experiencing that inconvenience; whereas looking round on the vast expanse that surrounded us, rendered my eyes so dim that I was sometimes a few minutes before I could perfectly recover my sight. I experienced no difficulty of breathing, or inconvenience from the motion of the Balloon; for though we moved with immense velocity, we felt not the least wind or pressure of air, it being so perfectly calm, that the flags in our hands, and those with which the Balloon was decorated, hung supine, nor did they stir. I observed, that between every row of clouds, not only the atmosphere, but the wind, varied several degrees; for on our passing through the first cloud after leaving London, the wind, which had before been nearly South-West, changed to South South-East, by which means we found ourselves over St. Albans, in Hertfordshire. — On ascending still higher, the wind became nearly West, which drove us over Epping Forest, which I distinguished very plainly: it appeared like a gooseberry-bush. I then pointed out our course to Mr. GARNERIN on the map, and observed to him that we should soon perceive the sea, which in a short time we saw very plainly. Mr. GARNERIN then told me we had not a moment to lose, and must descend with all possible speed; at the same time pointing out a very heavy cloud to me, nearly under us; and said— “Il faut que nous passions à travers de ce drôle la accrochez vous ferme car nous allons nous casser le col.” I answered, “De tout mon cœur.” We then opened the valve, and we descended with rapidity. On rushing into the cloud, I found, as he had conjectured, it contained a violent a squall of wind and rain as I ever experienced. The attraction of the water, the force of the wind, and the constant emission of gas from the valve, hurled us with such velocity towards the earth, that I expected to see his prediction verified, though I can assure you, my ideas at that time did not coincide with the answer I made him. Mr. GARNERIN still retained all his coolness and presence of mind; and while we were descending with that extreme swiftness, desired me, the moment I should find the car about to touch the earth, to catch hold of the hoop which was fastened to the bottom of the net, to which the car was suspended, and lift myself up into the net, by which means we saved ourselves from being dashed to pieces. The Balloon did not re-ascend immediately, but dragged us along the ground, with astonishing swiftness, for the length of nearly three fields, before the grappling iron took good hold, and then

we thought ourselves safe, being close to a farm-house, from which several persons came out to see us; but though we threw our ropes to them, and called for help, they were so consternated, that neither threats nor entreaties could prevail on them to come to our assistance; for, as I afterwards heard, they took us to be two sorcerers, it being rather an unusual thing to see two men coming down post-haste from the clouds. We were for about three minutes in that situation, till another gust of wind broke our cable, and we ascended again nearly 600 feet.

In the bustle of preparing the ropes for the farmers, Mr. GARNERIN had let the rope belonging to the valve slip out of his hand, by which means the bottom of the Balloon was pressed upwards by the wind. Mr. GARNERIN desired me to try to regain it, which I at last effected by climbing up into the net, though the force of the wind struck the thin tubes fastened at the bottom of the Balloon, and through which the rope led, with such violence against my face, that it had nearly stung me. Having recovered, we re-descended, but were borne with such violence across the country, sometimes along the ground, sometimes in the air, that I several times proposed to Mr. GARNERIN to abandon the Balloon, and to save ourselves; but he continually objected to it, and reminded me of my promise not to quit him. In the mean time, we were dashed against several trees, one of which had nearly destroyed us. Being with my back towards it, I received a blow on the head, which threw me at full length at the bottom of the car. Mr. GARNERIN, in attempting to assist me, was nearly thrown overboard; two of the cords that held the car broke, and at the same time some of the branches tore the Balloon: upon which Mr. GARNERIN cried out, “The Balloon is torn, and we are saved.” Another gust of wind disengaged us from the tree, and we touched the ground once more, with a less violent shock than before. We then both got out, but so exhausted with our numerous exertions, that we had hardly strength to follow the Balloon, which fell again about 200 paces further, when we completely mastered it, by throwing ourselves upon it, and by that means pressing out the remainder of the gas. It rained so very hard, that I proposed to Mr. GARNERIN to leave the Balloon in the field, and go in search of some house for shelter and refreshment. We accordingly made the best of our way to a house, which we espied about half a mile off, belonging to a Mr. KINGSBERY; and here a very curious mistake took place. When we inquired for the Master of the house, Mr. KINGSBERY appeared, but seeing two persons of so strange an appearance, (Mr. GARNERIN having a French hat on, with the National Cockade, bearing the Tri-coloured Flag, and myself being in a Sailor's dress, with the Union Jack in my hand), he imagined we came on account of the Election; and before we could address him, said, “Gentlemen, though I am a Freeholder, I have made a determination not to vote for one side or the other.” So much was he impressed with this idea, that it was some time before we could make him sensible that we had nothing to do with the Election, but that we came in a Balloon in three quarters of an hour from London; — that we were very much bruised and tired, and that we required his assistance and shelter. He then received us in the most hospitable manner, not only providing us with refreshments and dry clothes, but even offered us beds, the use of his house and horses, and sent immediately some farmers with a cart, to carry the Balloon from the field, and convey it to a place of safety; and as we expressed a wish to get to Colchester that night, he sent for a post-chaise to convey us thither, where we were received with loud acclamations by the inhabitants. The next day we returned to Fingering Hoe, where we had left the Balloon, and after drying it on the grass, packed it up, and made the best of our way to town, where we arrived about four o'clock the next morning.

I cannot help admiring the coolness and presence of mind Mr. GARNERIN preserved, even in the most imminent danger; and I am so confident of his great talents and skill in conducting a Balloon, that I would venture to go to the end of the world with him.

This is as near a statement as I can recollect; and I should take it as a favour if you would insert it in your Paper, as you would thereby save me a great deal of trouble, having hardly breath enough to answer the numerous inquiries concerning our aerial excursion.

R. C. SOWDEN.

July 6 1802

On the day of the last ascention of Garnerin's balloon, an order was given by Willan, the farmer, to his men, to impound all the horsemen they found trespassing on his fields. A great number rushing on, his grafts and inclosures sustained considerable injury. The first thing the men did was to rail up all the gates, and other avenues leading out of the fields; and they actually impounded not only the horses but the riders, to the amount of about sixty, affording great amusement to the mob collected to see this extraordinary levy carried into execution. The horsemen were released, but the horses detained. On Tuesday, at the Publick Office, Hatton-Garden, several gentlemen appeared before the Magistrates, at the instance of Mr. Willan, farmer, on a charge of trespass, in having, together with nearly 500 persons on horseback, and a great number on foot, broke down his palings, and covered a large field of grafts, which was entirely destroyed, in consequence of their eagerness to see M. Garnerin's balloon go off. The complaint being more adapted to another place, the parties gave their address at the office, and they departed.

We are sorry to learn, that a person who was carried to the Hospital, in consequence of the fall of a scaffold at the time of the ascension of Garnerin, died yesterday morning.

A great number of pick-pockets apprehended when the Balloon ascended on Monday, were yesterday examined at Bow-street, when three were committed for trial for robbery, and fifteen to hard labour as reputed thieves.

The following faithful copy of an advertisement, wrote by Captain Sowden himself, the original of which is in Mr. Garnerin's hands, fully justifies this last gentleman, and gives a flat contradiction to some extraordinary paragraphs which seem to discredit Mr. Garnerin's authority for publishing Mr. Sowden's second ascension with him:

“Mr. Garnerin not having been able to descend in the parachute on the third of July, on account of the violence of the wind, respectfully informs the Nobility and Gentry, and the public in general, that, if on Monday the weather will not permit him to ascend in parachute, he will ascend with the car, in which Captain Sowden means to accompany him.”

July 7 1802

Captain SOWDEN is not the first whose organs of vision shewed the precariousness of the common laws of perspective. An illustrious SPECTATOR before him declared, that in his view Austria was strong in resources, while France was exhausted. Why should we then wonder at the narrative of an Aeronaut who merely says, that the cart ruts were distinctly visible, while Epping-Forest appeared like a gooseberry bush.

The company at Tunbridge are all of the courtly kind, and the etiquette of St. James's is preserved with exactness; every thing is as shining and japanned as the wares of that celebrated watering place.

The number of Black-legs at the Races has probably been over-rated; that there are many of the description we cannot doubt, but still all calculation must be mere conjecture, unless some distinction be established between the professional Black-legs, and the amateurs.

Aug. 1802

Various paragraphs have appeared in the daily prints, ascribing to Captain SOWDEN a novelty of invention, in the Narrative he has given to the world of his Aerial Excursion with Monsieur GARNERIN. That M. G.'s countryman, VOLNEY, furnished Captain S. with several ideas, cannot be doubted, if we refer to his Survey of the Revolutions of Empires, where, speaking of himself, as having been lifted into the uppermost region by the wing of Genius, he says, “that although he had eyes more piercing than those of the eagle, the rivers below appeared to me no more than meandering ribbons, ridges of mountains irregular furrows, and great cities a nest of boxes, variegated among themselves like the squares in a chess-board.”

Oct. 11. 1802

1802  
There was much propriety in Captain SOWDEN's going up in a balloon with a miniature painter. He seems no inconsiderable proficient in that art himself.

The distance to which the gallant Captain SOWDEN ascended was no doubt very high, but the Pic Nic ought not to have advanced the expence of the journey in proportion.

1802

GARNERIN'S BALLOON.

July 5. 1802

The uncommon success which attended the first ascent of M. Garnerin, under circumstances of such peculiar danger and difficulty, had excited in the mind of the Public the utmost anxiety to witness his second experiment. He had announced his intention of ascending on Saturday, to the height of 10,000 feet, and of letting himself down by means of a parachute. —The novelty of such a scene in this country, rendered every one desirous of being present.—The celebrated Aeronaut had advertised, that if the weather should prove unfavourable, he would postpone his exhibition; and in point of fact, the stormy and boisterous night of Friday determined him not to risk his own life, and deprive the Public of that gratification, which could only be derived from a serene atmosphere. The balloon and parachute were affixed at Lord's Cricket-ground, Marybone, and every preparation made for inflating the former. On Saturday morning, the idea of an ascension was revived, in consequence of the wind having subsided, and the Public, whose anxiety nothing could exceed, crowded for admission into the place from whence the balloon was to be launched.

The intrepid Adventurer had used every exertion to repair the damage the Balloon had received by some atrocious miscreant having cut the oil-skin, of which it was composed. Every thing would have been ready, had the weather continued favourable; about two o'clock on Saturday, a tremendous shower of rain precluded the possibility of ascending with the Balloon, and hand-bills were distributed, and placards affixed, informing the Public the experiment was put off till this day, at four o'clock. The Balloon was sent away to the Pantheon, in a cart, followed by a vast concourse of people. The populace, by the time it arrived near the Pantheon, became irritated at their disappointment, and it was found necessary to convey the Balloon to Marlborough-street, where it was placed, by order of the Magistrates, under the care of the Police Officers. Thousands of persons continued flocking to Marybone, long after the Balloon had been sent back to the Pantheon.

Mr. GARNERIN. July 6. 1802

In consequence of the loss Mr. GARNERIN must have sustained from the unfavourableness of the weather, and the situation of Lord's Ground being so much overlooked that few persons contributed towards his expences, it is proposed by persons totally unacquainted with Mr. Garnerin, to open a Subscription, with the hope that a remuneration may be made to him for his courage and intrepidity.

Subscription received at Messrs. Hoakham and Ebers, No. 15, Old Bond-street;

July 6. 1802. GARNERIN'S ASCENT. Mr. Peck's  
FROM LORD'S CRICKET GROUND.

M. Garnerin having, in order to prevent a repetition of the disappointment of Saturday, pledged himself to go up inevitably yesterday, the balloon was accordingly prepared, but the experiment of the parachute was impossible. Notwithstanding the unfavourable appearance of the day, more than one person offered himself as a companion, Captain Sowden having thought it prudent to remain content with the fame which he had already acquired, and to decline his engagement for this day, Mr. Peck, of Oxford-street, was first mentioned, and actually determined to go, but, from some reasons with which we are unacquainted, the place was given to another gentleman, whose name we understand is Brown. Mr. Carbery, son of Mr. Carbery, of Conduit-street, a boy of light weight, was also to have gone up in case more favourable weather had permitted Mr. Garnerin to take a second companion. The balloon was filled about four; but the additional preparations of tying on the car, which from the boisterousness of the wind, it was necessary to render more secure by one or two rounds of circular cordage through the ropes by which it was suspended to the balloon, took up a considerable time, so that it was near five when the aeronaut was called away to meet His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who having been detained by the press of carriages, now entered the ground, with her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, Lady Bessborough, Lord and Lady Morpeth, Lady Harriot Cavendish, Lady Duncannon, &c. &c. Garnerin now exerted himself in getting through every remaining preparation; he was dressed in a tight seaman's jacket, and pantaloons, which, from the length of time he had been on the ground, in a state of continued exertion, wishing to do every thing himself, notwithstanding the most perfect diligence and attention in his attendants, were wet through long before he entered the car. Every thing being prepared, a few minutes before five, Garnerin had a long conversation with the Prince of Wales, in which his Royal Highness gave many marks of his most gracious attention: After receiving the good wishes of his Royal Highness and his fair and noble companions, the hardy Frenchman approached his aerial vehicle; there was yet some difficulty with respect to the management of the ballast, and the Gentleman who was to accompany Mr. Garnerin rose up to assist in settling it; but Garnerin, who at this moment took his seat, said to him, *ne vous dérangez pas Monsieur*, and at the same time adjusted every thing himself. The wind having beat with some violence with a most piercing rain now for some hours, the majority of the spectators, as well as the adventurers themselves, were wet through, and there being no shelter to afford the same facility of taking the balloon about the ground which the inclosure of Ranelagh afforded, Garnerin ordered the only rope that now held it to be cut, and, without waiting for any of those interesting forms which more favourable weather would permit, he was launched at once into the clouds.

The balloon was not the same that went up from Ranelagh; it was of an oblong form, and, from the prevalence of a strong and uniform wind during about three hours, which the inflation occupied, its position in the netting was considerably deranged, so that when it got into the air, its appearance was different from the steady majesty and elegant proportion of the balloon of Ranelagh; being extremely irregular and awkward, the car seemed not rightly balanced, and the balloon, while it remained in sight (which was not above three minutes) swung continually round in consequence. But all these disadvantages served only to display the superior courage and determination of Garnerin and his companion, who continued flourishing the united flags of Great Britain and France as long as they remained in sight. A thick cloud, however, intervened between the anxious eyes of the immense assemblage, and the interesting object which they pursued, while it was yet near and perfectly distinguishable. The wind was nearly in the same direction as on the day of the ascent from Ranelagh, but from the change of place added to the thickness of the atmosphere, we fear the general view from the various parts of the city was not near so good. Within the ground, the number of persons, chiefly of the first distinction, may be estimated at about one thousand; many more were prevented by the press from coming up in time; a considerable number remained in their carriages in Baker-street and on the New Road, and some who had got out to make the best of their way were coming in when the ascent took place. Besides the Prince and his party, there were present on the ground Ladies Hunlestone and Warren; Lords Stanhope, Holland, and Cathcart; Colonel Greville, Captain Sowden, Mr. Wynne, &c. The display of female charms was greater than we have ever witnessed, and wanted, but the accession of more favourable weather to render it irresistible; as it was, it afforded a considerable alleviation of the vexations of the rain and wind. There were two large tents and a permanent wooden building, which afforded shelter to the greater part of the spectators. The Prince of Wales and his fair companions, after having braved the weather, from the time of their entrance into the ground, till near a quarter of an hour after the ascent, retired to the wooden building, where the rest of the company enjoyed the most grateful prospect of the day in beholding His Royal Highness in the most perfect enjoyment of health, and in the most unrestrained display of his fascinating gaiety and good humour. The charms of the gaze seemed to have fascinated the assembly, and if some who had engagements to dine with persons not in the grounds had not thinned the crowd, and admonished those who were to dine at home that it was time to go away, the meeting would, perhaps, never have separated; and when compelled to depart, the company had the evident appearance of making a sacrifice.

The scene without the gardens remains yet to be described; and it was of such a nature, as has not only never been described, but we will venture to say, never witnessed. The entire space of Baker-street from Portman-square, and above a mile of the New Road, was crowded with coaches and carriages

of various descriptions, the passengers in which consoled themselves for the want of a nearer view, in being perfectly secure from the rain. The owners of the nurseries adjoining the Cricket-ground, determined on sharing Mr. Garnerin's profits, without participating in his expences, had let their scaffolding for half-price, or for any price they could get, while the proprietors of the adjacent fields had their grass trampled to destruction without thinking of demanding any recompence. The vast number of females in the windows, and even on the roofs of all the houses within sight of the ground was extremely interesting; but the most novel and striking scene of all was the vast multitude in the fields and other open spaces, who presented but one prospect of umbrellas, united so as to present a tolerably just idea of the locked shields of the Romans in an assault. We cannot attempt to give an idea of the number of persons collected on this very interesting occasion; but there certainly appeared to be more than even at the ascent at Ranelagh. We are extremely concerned that the gratifications were in any respect inferior, and we must do Mr. Garnerin and the gentleman who went with him the justice to say, that, at the most imminent hazard of their lives, they shewed their determination to contribute, as much as was in their power, to the pleasures, as well of the more limited number who contributed to the expense of the day, as of the unnumbered multitude, from whom they could expect to derive nothing but praises or maledictions.

The whole assemblage separated with no other idea on the minds of those who composed it, but admiration for Mr. Garnerin, and the most earnest wishes for his safety and that of his companion; a safety which it might, perhaps, be some reproach on the inhabitants of the most enlightened city in the world, to have suffered to be exposed for a momentary gratification.

Previous to his departure, M. Garnerin took the precaution to obtain a certificate, signed by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, and several other noble personages, and also by Sir Richard Ford, recommending him to the friendly attentions of all country gentlemen and farmers, among whom he may happen to land; and we have no doubt, as it is now known, that he does not come on electioneering business, that wherever he shall descend, he will be treated with truly British hospitality.

The mischief that had been done to the balloon on the early part of Saturday by some malicious person, was entirely repaired on that day, so that no danger could be apprehended from it. We are sorry to state, that an unhappy accident occurred: a man fell from a scaffolding, and was taken to an adjacent hospital, under the most dangerous appearance.

**MR. GARNERIN** has the honour of informing the Public, that his ascent into the Air, to the height of Ten Thousand Feet, and his descent by means of a Parachute, will take place at LORD'S CRICKET GROUND, Mary-le-Bone, on the 3d of July, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon.

Admittance to Seats, immediately in the vicinity of the Apparatus, from which the operation of filling the Balloon, &c. may be distinctly seen, 10s. 6d.—Second Places, 5s.

The Exhibition of the Balloon and Parachute continues every Day, from Nine o'clock in the Morning till Five in the Afternoon, at the Pantheon, Oxford Road, where the first People of this Metropolis come to inspect them, as well as the Sphere of the Union of Nations, an Aerostatic Globe, with its Aerial Car, decorated with the Flags of all the Civilised Nations of the Earth, which ascended with four Persons from Paris, the 9th of last November, in the presence of Bonaparte and the Marquis of Cornwallis.

Admittance to the Pantheon is.

1802

**BALLOON.—STAGES** will be erected in the Nursery Grounds of Messrs. Cochran and Jenkins, adjoining Lord's Cricket Ground, for the accommodation of Ladies and Gentlemen to see the Balloon go off on Saturday next. Selected parties may have places for any number on application at the above Nursery. Admittance 5s. each.

July 1, 1802

**ASCENSION with a BALLOON, and DESCENT in a PARACHUTE.**—Mr. GARNERIN has the honour of informing the Public, that his ASCENSION with a PARACHUTE will take place (if the weather permits), at LORD'S CRICKET GROUND, New-road, Mary-le-bone, THIS DAY, the 3d of July, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon. Doors open at Twelve. Admittance Tickets, for the First Seats, and in the Vicinity of the Apparatus, &c. 10s. 6d.—Second Seats, 5s. to be had at No. 31, Conduit-street; at Tom's Coffee-house, Cornhill; at the Globe Tavern, Fleet-street; at Lord's Cricket-ground, New-road, Mary-le-bone; and at the Pantheon, Oxford-street; where the Aerostatic Machines are to be seen every day. Admittance, 1s.—N. B. Order to be observed—Coaches coming to the Ground, with the horses heads towards Paddington.—In case of an unavoidable disappointment, on account of the rain or wind, Mr. G.'s experiments will be postponed till Monday, the 5th instant.

1802

**AERIAL JOURNEY, and DESCENT in a PARACHUTE.**—Mr. GARNERIN begs leave to inform the Public, that his Ascent into the Aerial Regions, and his Descent by means of a Parachute, from the height of 10,000 Feet, will irrevocably take place, at LORD'S CRICKET GROUND, in the New-road, Mary-le-bone, on the 3d of July inst. at Three o'clock in the Afternoon. Mr. Garnerin having obtained the approbation of the Magistrates for the choice and eligibility of the spot, is thus far authorised to announce the precise time of his Ascension, and to assure the Public, that, as the trial of the Parachute requires a fine weather, yet, if his descent was thereby prevented, he would, nevertheless, perform his majestic Ascension in his Balloon; and moreover pledges himself, that nothing on his part shall be wanting to gratify the curiosity of the Public. On account of the number of distinguished persons who have already applied and promised to honour with their presence, Mr. Garnerin's departure for his Aerial Journey, as well as the crowd which is expected at the doors, it becomes incumbent to him to request, that such Ladies and Gentlemen who wish to be seated in the vicinity of the apparatus, from which the operation of filling the Balloon may be distinctly seen, would send as soon as convenient for Tickets of admission, which may be had—First Seats, 10s. 6d. Second Seats, 5s. at Mr. Carbery's, No. 31, Conduit-street, Bond-street; at the Globe Tavern, Fleet-street; at Tom's Coffee-house, Cornhill; at Lord's Cricket Ground, Mary-le-bone; and at the Pantheon, Oxford-street; where the Exhibition of his Balloons, Parachute, and other Aerostatic Machines, continues every Day, but Ascension Days.—Admittance to the Pantheon, 1s.

1802 July 2

**THE BALLOON.** 4 July

1802

We are extremely concerned to state that some person or persons were base enough to cut and damage M. Garnerin's balloon (with which he was to have ascended on Saturday) in several places on Thursday evening, at the time it was exhibiting in the Pantheon, and it was only by the great exertions of a number of persons stirring up all Friday night that it was repaired and in a state fit to ascend on Saturday. Some suspicions, it is said, attach to some of M. Garnerin's countrymen. We should rather think that this malicious outrage must have proceeded from another quarter. Early on Saturday morning it was removed, with the parachute, to Lord's Cricket Ground, New Road, Mary-le-bone. Every preparation was made for filling the balloon; between eleven and twelve o'clock M. Garnerin arrived on the ground; it was then blowing a very strong gale at North West, and M. G. expressing some alarm at the appearance of the weather, having suffered so much on his late ascent in consequence of the boisterous weather, his friends pressed him to make up his mind before the doors were opened, as they assured him it was very material to the preservation of order to determine before any money was taken, upon which he begged for a short time to consider of it, and the doors were delayed being opened, and at length he determined not to go. Between twelve and one o'clock he left the ground, accompanied by Captain Sowden, and the populace learning who they were, a great crowd followed them to view their persons.

As soon as possible, after M. Garnerin had made up his mind not to ascend, he sent a very polite letter to Sir Richard Ford, informing him of his determination, in consequence of which Sir Richard sent a letter of dismissal from duty to the Captain of the Guards who were stationed there, but sent instructions to the Police Officers to remain there till after three o'clock.

M. Garnerin took every possible means to prevent the public from being disappointed, by giving orders for a number of hand and posting bills, informing the public of his having put off his ascent, to be printed and circulated with all possible speed, and with such despatch were they printed, that they were actually delivering and posting before three o'clock.

About three o'clock the balloon in a wooden cage, the parachute, and all the apparatus, was removed in a cart from the Cricket Ground with an intention of safely lodging them in the Pantheon. An immense course of people followed the cart, hissing and groaning all the way. This disapprobation was supposed to arise from M. Garnerin having said in his advertisements which appeared before he ascended from Ranelagh, that he would ascend with the balloon although the weather was not favourable, but not descend in the parachute, the condition of the weather being only as to his descent in the parachute.

When the cart arrived at the pantheon the mob had increased to such a number so as to render Oxford-street impassable, and the shop keepers near it were obliged to put up their shutters, and the people became so outrageous that they actually prevented the balloon from being taken into the Pantheon, threatening to tear it to pieces. Information being sent to the Public Office, Marlborough-street, of this daring attack, the Magistrates dispatched a party of Officers, and on their arrival they found several of the mob with knives, &c. about to break open the cage which contained the balloon, with an intention of carrying their threats into execution, when Hamilton, the Officer, in the most firm and manly manner fought his way through the mob and got into the cart, and dared any of them to touch the balloon, when, with the assistance of the other Officers, the cart was driven to the Public Office, Marlborough-street, where the balloon, parachute, and all the apparatus were safely lodged in the strong room of the Office. We are extremely sorry that the populace should have betrayed so shameful and outrageous a disposition on this occasion. M. Garnerin has already sufficiently proved himself willing to gratify the people of this country with the spectacle of his aerostatic experiments at the expense of no common danger. The public therefore ought to have relied upon his honour that nothing unfair could be intended. Besides, the populace had no reason to complain. They pay nothing to M. Garnerin for the perilous enterprise to which he exposes himself. It shows too much brutal disposition even to wish that a man should risk almost certain destruction to afford a show to the public. The pleasure of the ascent of the balloon must depend on the fineness of the weather. And the interesting experiment of the parachute cannot be made at all but in a calm. Had M. Garnerin ascended in his balloon it might have been destroyed, nay mult have been destroyed, so that the parachute could not have been exhibited to the People of London.

The crowd assembled round the Cricket Ground was beyond calculation. They began to collect between eleven and twelve o'clock, and continued coming till five o'clock, during which time several very heavy showers fell, and such was the rage of public curiosity that they weathered the storms, and many of the fair sex in particular were completely wet to the skin. The morning having been very fine, induced numbers to go out even without umbrellas. The New Road was completely filled with carriages. In addition to the Police Officers and a party of the Guards, a party of the Horse Guards attended, in consequence of an application from Mr. Lord, the proprietor of the Ground, to Lord Cathcart.

In the crowd at the Pantheon a female pick pocket was detected, and we are extremely sorry to say, Connolly's daring gang was as active in committing their depredations upon this as on all other public occasions.

We find, however, that it is settled that Captain Sowden again accompanies M. Garnerin (should the weather be such as to prevent M. G.'s descent with the parachute), and the ascent will certainly take place this day. M. Garnerin, in his bill, expresses his regret that the public should have taken offence at his not ascending on Saturday, but, as we have said, we rather think that he has reason to complain of the unreasonable demands of the populace.

July 5, 1802. *James Chon.*

GARNERIN'S Agent from Lord's Cricket Ground.

M. Garnerin having, in order to prevent a repetition of the disappointment of Saturday, pledged himself to go up inevitably yesterday, the balloon was accordingly prepared, but the experiment of the parachute was impossible. Notwithstanding the unfavourable appearance of the day, more than one person offered himself as a companion. Captain Sowden having thought it prudent to remain content with the fate which he had already acquired, and to decline his engagement for this day, Mr. Peck, of Oxford-street, was first mentioned, and actually determined to go; but, from some reasons with which we are unacquainted, the place was given to another gentleman, whose name we understand is Brown. Mr. Carbery, son of Mr. Carbery, of Conduit-street, a boy of light weight, was also to have gone up in case more favourable weather had permitted M. Garnerin to take a second companion. The balloon was filled about four; but the additional preparations of tying on the car, which from the boisterousness of the wind, it was necessary to render more secure by one or two rounds of circular cordage through the ropes by which it was suspended to the balloon, took up a considerable time, so that it was near five when the aeronaut was called away to meet his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who having been detained by the prefs of carriages, now entered the ground, with the Dukes of Devonshire, Lady Bessborough, Lord and Lady Morpeth, Lady Harriet Cavendish, Lady Duncannon, &c.

Garnerin now exerted himself in getting through every remaining preparation; he was dressed in a tight seaman's jacket, and pantaloons, which, from the length of time he had been on the ground, in a state of continued exertion, willing to do every thing himself, notwithstanding the most perfect diligence and attention in his attendants, were wet through long before he entered the car. Every thing being prepared, a few minutes before five, after receiving the good wishes of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and his fair and noble companions, the hardy Frenchman approached his aerial vehicle; there was yet some difficulty with respect to the management of the ballast, and the Gentleman who was to accompany M. Garnerin rose up to assist in settling it; but Garnerin, who at this moment took his seat, said to him, *Ne vous dérangez pas Monsieur*, and at the same time adjusted every thing himself. The wind having beat with some violence with a most piercing rain now for some hours, the majority of the spectators, as well as the adventurers themselves, were wet through, and there being no shelter to render the same facility of taking the balloon about the ground which the inclosure of Ranelagh afforded, Garnerin ordered the only rope that now held it to be cut, and, without waiting for any of those interesting forms which more favourable weather would permit, he was launched at once into the clouds.

The balloon was not the same that went up from Ranelagh; it was of an oblong form, and, from the prevalence of a strong and uniform wind during about three hours, which the inflation occupied, its position in the setting was considerably deranged, so that when it got into the air, its appearance was different from the steady majesty and elegant proportion of the balloon of Ranelagh; being extremely irregular and awkward, the car seemed not rightly balanced, and the balloon, while it remained in sight (which was not above three minutes) swung continually round in consequence. But all these disadvantages served only to display the superior courage and determination of Garnerin and his companion, who continued flourishing the united flags of Great Britain and France as long as they remained in sight. A thick cloud, however intervened between the anxious eyes of the immense assemblage, and the interesting object which they pursued, while it was yet near and perfectly distinguishable. Within the ground, the number of persons, chiefly of the first distinction, may be estimated at about one thousand; many more were prevented by the prefs from coming up in time; a considerable number remained in their carriages in Baker-street, and on the New Road, and some who had got out to make the best of their way were coming in when the ascent took place.

The scene without the gardens remains yet to be described; and it was of such a nature, as has not only never been described, but we will venture to say, never witnessed. The entire space of Baker-street from Portman-square, and above a mile of the New Road, was crowded with coaches and carriages of various descriptions, the passengers in which consoled themselves for the want of a nearer view, in being perfectly secure from the rain. The owners of the nurseries adjoining the Cricket-ground, determining on sharing M. Garnerin's profits, without participating in his expenses, had let their scaffolding for half-price, or for any price they could get, while the proprietors of the adjacent fields had their grafts trampled to destruction without thinking of demanding any recompence. The vast number of females in the windows, and even on the roofs of all the houses within sight of the ground was extremely interesting; but the most novel and striking scene of all was the vast multitude in the fields and other open spaces, who presented but one prospect of umbrellas, united so as to present a tolerably just idea of the locked shields of the Romans in an assault. We cannot attempt to give an idea of the number of persons collected on this very interesting occasion, but there certainly appeared to be more than even at the ascent at Ranelagh. We are extremely concerned that the gratifications were in any respect inferior, and we must do M. Garnerin and the gentleman who went with him the justice to say, that, at the most eminent hazard of their lives, they shewed their determination to contribute, as much as was in their power, to the pleasures, as well of the more limited number who contributed to the expence of the day, as of the unnumbered multitude, from whom they could expect to derive nothing but prises.

The whole assemblage separated with no other idea on the minds of those who composed it, but admiration for M. Garnerin, and the most earnest wishes for his safety and that of his companion; a safety which it is perhaps, a reproach on the inhabitants of the most enlightened city in the world, to have suffered to be exposed for a momentary gratification.

Previous to his departure, M. Garnerin took the precaution to obtain a certificate, signed by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, and several other noble personages; and also by Sir Richard Ford, recommending him to the friendly attentions of all country gentlemen and farmers, among whom he may happen to land; and we have no doubt, as it is now known that he does not come on *electorating business*, that wherever he shall descend, he will be treated with truly British hospitality.

The wind was more southerly than when M. Garnerin made his ascent from Ranelagh, and gave the balloon a direction apparently more to the Northward, seeming to pass over Highgate.

Before and after the ascent of the balloon, the most flagrant and atrocious acts of plunder and robbery were committed by gangs of thieves and pickpockets. Their numbers enabled them to carry on their depredations in security, and several instances occurred, where finding it impossible to steal with success, they did not scruple to seize and carry off the property openly and by force.

The breaking down of a scaffold or platform, upon which a great number of persons had taken their stand, produced a most melancholy and affecting catastrophe. By this unfortunate accident seven persons were most dreadfully crushed, a child was killed on the spot, a woman had both her legs broken, a man had a leg broken, and two others their arms. Another had his head and face crushed in so dreadful a manner as to leave little hope of his recovery.

**BALLOONS.**—It is with the utmost concern that Mr. GARNERIN found himself compelled to disappoint the Public in the Ascension he had announced and prepared for Saturday last, 3d instant. The high winds having rendered his experiments utterly impracticable with the Parachute, and being quite unprepared for a simple Ascension with his Balloon, on account of the hardships he experienced in his last excursion (in groundling), Mr. Garnerin anxiously and confidently trusts his apology will be acceptable to a liberal and discerning Public, at the shrine of which he pledges himself that nothing will prevent his Ascension taking place (if the weather permits) in the Parachute, and in the alternative with his Balloon, at Lord's Cricket Ground THIS AFTERNOON, at Four o'clock precisely. First seats 10s. 6d.—Second 5s.

N. B. If, by contrary weather, Mr. Garnerin is obliged to give up the idea of ascending in a Parachute, Mr. Sowden will most certainly make his second Ascension with Mr. Garnerin and his Ballon.

July 5, 1802

GARNERIN'S AERIAL VOYAGE FROM  
RANELAGH.

June 29. 1802.

This interesting event took place about five yesterday evening, being delayed from the originally intended hour of three, in consequence of the procession of His Majesty to the House of Lords, which, however, prevented many persons of distinction from attending. The balloon was about thirty feet in diameter, and about forty-five in height; the car, about six feet by four, and about two feet and a half in depth, with a seat at each end, and a space between for ballast, hung from the extremity of the netting with which the balloon was covered, at a distance of nearly eight feet, suspended by no more than four cords, so that when the number of accidents that every day are heard of, by falling overboard ships, encompassed as they are with rigging, and familiarised as men are with them, were considered, the most lively anxiety prevailed for the safety of the daring adventurers who were to ascend. The figure and proportions of the balloon were grand and beautiful; its colours alternate sections of dark green and yellow, diversified by the netting. The vessels in which were contained the materials from which the gas was generated, the tubes by which it was conveyed to the balloon, the most minute part of the instruments, and the process, were examined with the most particular attention that wonder and curiosity could excite. The day, which had held fair till the people were gratified with the sight of their beloved Sovereign, became somewhat gloomy, when they proceeded towards Ranelagh, in search of a pleasureless moral and affecting, though certainly innocent and interesting. A slight dropping of rain, and the evident approach of a heavy shower, gave rise to some apprehensions in breasts less bold than those of Garnerin and his companion (and probably such were those of all present but the adventurers themselves), that the ascent would not take place; but a few minutes before five, all the preparations being completed, a signal was given by the firing of a gun, and the company hastened from the Rotunda to the spot where the balloon was moored. Garnerin, with an alacrity astonishing on such an occasion, took leave of his friends; and Captain Sowden, of the Navy, now resolved to navigate a new element (which, we trust, if ever it becomes completely practicable, will, like the proper element of Captain Sowden, be ruled by the British flag), mounted the car. This was a moment of keen anxiety to the great number of spectators unskilled in the nature and management of balloons. The cords by which the balloon had been secured were untied, the men who had held it down had let go their hold; and though the car rested still on the earth, the body floating in the air seemed ready every moment to ascend into the clouds with a man totally unacquainted with the regions into which he would be hurried, and having nothing to depend upon for his safety but a courage which, after this day's treat, may be fairly said to be inaccessible to fear. In this situation on the balloon was detained for some few minutes, by the weight of the sand in the car; but Garnerin having thrown out as much as was necessary to give way, stepped on board; his assistants again laid hold of the cord, and the balloon, now completely adrift, was borne three times round the circle, amidst the universal and loud applauses of the assembly, and the unanimous wish of a happy voyage and a safe return. The balloon was now entirely loosed, Garnerin and his brave companion pronounced their adieu, and mounted into the air, followed by the eyes, and the animating exclamations of the company within the gardens, and the immense multitude which crowded the surrounding places. Mutual expressions of kindness were exchanged, as long as articulation could be distinguished; and when the voices of the adventurers could no longer be heard, the cheering shouts of the admiring assemblage below ascended to them, and was replied to by kissing their hands, and waving their hats; and when even that was no longer distinguishable, by flourishing the flags which they held in their hands. A more sublime, and interesting sight, was never witnessed, than that which was afforded by the moments between the entrance of Captain Sowden into the car, and the time when the balloon attained its full elevation: the ascent was not rapid, but rather easy and majestic, till the voyagers, having cleared the trees, and given facility to their flight, by throwing out an additional quantity of their ballast, rose beyond the power of the naked eye, and were no longer discernible, except as a dark mass, moving in the atmosphere. This interval was about 20 minutes, and attention was still fixed on the object, continually diminishing by distance, and approaching to invisibility, when a heavy fall of rain compelled the company to take refuge in the Rotunda, not without a sincere feeling of concern for the voyagers.

Garnerin is of the middle size, with an expressive countenance and a quick eye, extremely active and alert, and particularly so in the moment of ascending. Capt. Sowden is of a tall manly figure; he seemed rather to feel a solemn and decided resolution than a thoughtless gaiety, insensible of the value of what it exposes.

The company in the gardens consisted of about 1200 persons, almost universally of fashion. They began to assemble about two: nearly at three the Duchesses of Manchester and Gordon, with Lady Georgina Gordon, arrived, with a party, at the Water Gate, having come in a pleasure barge from Whitehall Stairs. Their Graces were saluted, on landing, with a volley from the soldiers on duty in the gardens. At half past three arrived the Duchesses of Devonshire and Leeds, Lord and Lady Morpeth, Lord Carlisle, Lady H. Cavendish, Marquises Lorne and Hartington; Sirs John Shelly, and John Riddell; Lords Camelford, Cholmondeley, Mount Edgecumbe, Stanhope, Cooper, Ossulstone; Col. Greville; Messrs. Maddocks, W. Maddocks, Mitford, Dawkins; Mrs. Fitzherbert, Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan, &c. &c. At four the company partook of the refreshments, which were excellent; the wines were of the first quality and flavour, particularly the Burgundy, Champagne, and Claret, in the gallery, where none but the members of the *Pic Nic* Society, and those who had tickets from them, were admitted.

Among the rumours on the scene, it was mentioned that Colonel Greville wished very much to be *du voyage*; and that when he was informed that the car could not admit three, he had endeavoured to persuade Captain Sowden to resign his place to him. A lively conversation was said to have taken place on the subject, in which each of these gentlemen displayed much anxiety for the safety of the other, and for his own glory. It was said that Captain Polen offered 50 guineas to be permitted to terminate the dispute, by being himself the companion of Garnerin, and that Captain Sowden actually paid 100 guineas for being allowed to retain his seat.

Such are the particulars (within the gardens) of the second *Fête* of the *Pic Nic* Society, at Ranelagh. The whole expense of the two, including 500l. paid to Garnerin, was 3000l. The money paid for tickets, and for admission at the doors, amounted only to 2000l. consequently the subscribers have 1000l. to make good.

Without the gardens every window, every house-top, every tree, was filled; Chelsea gardens were crowded, the river was covered with boats; while the banks on both sides, and every avenue from town towards Ranelagh were so thronged, it was difficult to find a passage through them. The great road from Buckingham-gate was absolutely impassable, or at least the carriages, which formed an unbroken chain from the turnpike to Ranelagh door, could only advance so slowly that many persons preferred getting out on the way, and struggling through the crowd at any risque. It is in fact impossible to form an idea of the numbers who went out to view this sublime and novel sight.—Those who were unable, or unwilling, to go to the spot, were extremely fortunate in seeing it pass over the town, so low, as to be perfectly seen; Mr. Garnerin and Captain Sowden saluting as they passed along, and seeming to contrive, by the management of their ballast, &c., to remain purposely at that elevation, from which the whole City would be likely to have the best view. From Ranelagh, the balloon took its direction towards Westminster, passing over Duke-street, whence it kept its line, between the river, and the Strand, Fleet-street, Ludgate-hill, and St. Paul's Church-yard, &c. Garnerin's intention, if the weather answered his wishes, was to have run a course of three hours, in which time he expected to go a length of 50 miles; the state of the day did probably not permit him to go that length.

In addition to the above particulars, we are enabled to add from another correspondent, that Garnerin said in the Gardens, previous to his departure, he would probably be obliged to make a long voyage, in consequence of the freshness of the breeze, which would carry him, and this turned out the fact, as he went too far to return last night; it was, in consequence, unknown where he landed; probably thirty or forty miles in Essex. He will, certainly, however, be in the Pantheon, this day, at one o'clock, and the whole town will be crowding to see him.

No balloon that ever before went up, took a course so directly over London (from West to East) as Garnerin's yesterday. He passed over Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's, and could be distinctly seen above every street. Every house and shop was totally deserted; every soul flocked into the street as if there had been an earthquake.—He could be distinctly seen waving the flag, and at one time he came very low, upon which he threw out ballast, ascended and was lost behind a cloud. Soon after this a smart shower fell, and we suppose he had not the most comfortable voyage. The weather was very hazy: had it been clear, the sight, passing so directly over London, and so low, would have been one of the most beautiful ever seen. The sight produced a great sensation in town; great astonishment and anxiety. Every inhabitant saw it, and never had any spectacle so many spectators.

St. James's Church June 30. 1802.  
THE BALLOON.

M. Garnerin has favoured the public with the following additional particulars of his aerial voyage:—At the moment of departure, the balloon directed its course across St. James's Park, and went over the river between Westminster and Blackfriars-bridge. Perceiving that the aeroftatic vehicle was descending, Mr. G. threw out some ballast; he then rose much above St. Paul's, and the travellers had an opportunity of viewing at one sight the city of London and its suburbs. The temperature was already 15 degrees colder. Mr. G. and Mr. S. felt quite chilly. London soon disappeared by crossing a cloud, which, being surmounted, made them likewise lose sight of the earth. The temperature was milder. The inflammable air began then to dilate: and the aeronauts provided the means of safety by procuring every necessary emission of air. Dinner was then introduced, and eaten with pleasure and appetite; at the desert, Mr. G. informed Capt. S. that their journey was drawing to a conclusion, and it was necessary to prepare for a descent extremely hazardous, on account of the excessive violence of the wind, which was likely to precipitate the travellers and the machine on the trees, on the hedges, on the houses, and, in fact, on every thing that would obstruct their passage.

The travellers had been exploring the atmosphere upwards of half an hour only, and having no idea of being at such a distance, thought it nevertheless expedient to come down. Mr. G. opened the *fourpape*, or aperture of his Balloon, to cross again the same cold and dark clouds already mentioned. The earth became visible as well as the sea, which they saw very close, an arm of which they even crossed in various parts. The anchor and cordage were ready for landing; the fury of the wind made the Balloon bounce from place to place as it grounded, and dragged the travellers through fields, trees, and bushes, by which their hands were torn to pieces. The anchor now and then caught ground, and fastened at last to a hedge near a house, whose inhabitants, frightened at the sight of the aerial machine, not only declined to give assistance, but actually offered to fire on the venturesome Travellers. At this juncture, the rope that fastens to the anchor broke, and the machine was carried with additional violence against a tree, by which Mr. S. received a severe blow on the head. The Balloon, however, having been torn in the lower part, both the cords and netting of the railing of the car broke, and the wind again forced away the Gentlemen from the tree they were strongly clasping, but with the assistance of a new though last exertion, the aeronauts had an opportunity of leaving the Car and Balloon, which fell upwards of 200 yards further.

Mr. G. and S. were then four miles beyond Colchester; they went over Epping Forest, &c. and performed this long and arduous journey, in the short space of three quarters of an hour.

Mr. G. mentions in the handsomest terms the courage Capt. S. evinced in this new instance, and with peculiar expressions of gratitude and acknowledgments of the perseverance with which he voluntarily shared in the dangers attending their landing, as he could several times have extricated himself from the car, which he never thought of leaving without his pilot.

He has unfortunately received some contusions; but we are happy to hear, that they are of no consequence.

### GARNERIN'S BALLOON.

Yesterday forenoon, Colonel Greville received an express from Colchester, with the two following Letters; the first from Captain Sowden to the Colonel himself, the second from M. Garnerin to his confidential friend in London. *1802*

"DEAR GREVILLE,  
Colchester, June 29.  
After a delightful voyage of three quarters of an hour, we landed safe at Colchester. Our landing was extremely difficult, on account of the high wind. You may suppose at what a rate we came at. Yours, &c.

"R. C. SOWDEN."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MONSIEUR GARNERIN, TO ONE OF HIS FRIENDS IN LONDON, DATED COLCHESTER, 29TH JUNE, ONE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING.

"I take the earliest opportunity of informing you, that after a very pleasant journey, but the most dangerous descent I ever made, on account of the boisterous weather, and the vicinity of the sea, we alighted at a distance of four miles from this place, and sixty from Ranelagh. We were only three-quarters of an hour on the way. Tonight, I intend to be in London with the balloon, which is all to pieces, as well as the netting. We ourselves are all over bruises."

At twelve o'clock last night, neither M. Garnerin nor Captain Sowden had returned, and they were not expected till this morning. Probably they slept long and sound after so much fatigue and anxiety, and were afterwards much caressed by the inhabitants and officers in garrison at Colchester, who prevailed on them to remain there all day. The appearance of the balloon we understand excited the utmost astonishment among the country people, and in Colchester. The town was in an uproar all Monday night and yesterday forenoon, and the two travellers much delighted with their reception.— Garnerin, before he entered the car at Ranelagh, exacted from Captain Sowden his word of honour, that he would not require to be landed till he (Garnerin) pleased. Garnerin designed to go as far as he could, and he was only stopped by his approach to the sea.

The terms on which Captain Sowden purchased his seat are curious. Colonel Greville contracted that M. Garnerin should go up, and said he would go up with him; Garnerin consented, but the Colonel was persuaded to decline. Colonel Pollen offered Garnerin fifty guineas for the seat, but Garnerin said he could not let it without Colonel Greville's consent. In the mean time, Captain Sowden applied to Colonel Greville, paid him 500L for the seat, engaged to go halves in the profit or loss of the Ranelagh Fete (the loss is more than 1000L), and one of the conditions was, that he should make his will in favour of the Colonel, which he actually did; thus a seat for three-quarters of an hour will cost Captain Sowden about eight hundred pounds! Talk of the high price of seats in Parliament! As the General Election is coming on the people of Colchester should choose Captain Sowden. It is not every day they can get a candidate from the clouds!

M. GARNERIN and his companion Captain SOWDEN, ended their aerial flight on Monday evening at six o'clock, by descending near Colchester, where they sat down to a good supper; and, no doubt, with a good appetite! *1802*

If the following Letter from Captain SOWDEN to Col. GREVILLE be authentic, it is evident, that the Aeronauts must have travelled at a devil of a rate:

"DEAR GREVILLE,  
Colchester, June 29.  
After a delightful voyage of three quarters of an hour, we landed safe at Colchester. Our landing was extremely difficult, on account of the high wind. You may suppose at what a rate we came at. Yours, &c.

"R. C. SOWDEN."

An Irish Gentleman, born in the West Indies, yesterday observed, that GARNERIN and his fellow traveller would infallibly land in the sea.

It was very sagaciously asked by a Gentleman (not an Irishman) yesterday, whether M. GARNERIN could see the Earth when he was above the Clouds.

A Morning Paper mentioning the Balloon, says, the Populace pursued it till they lost sight of it. We may infer that the populace took an aerial flight, but wanted gas. The same sagacious Record very gravely and truly observes, that "had the Sun shone upon it," the effect would have been more striking!"

According to the Morning Herald of yesterday, we have a County in the Air, but we have not heard whether Messrs. GARNERIN and SOWDEN are to represent it.

June 30. 1802  
M. GARNERIN AND HIS BALLOON.

The public curiosity, which had been so much gratified by the bold expedition of Captain Sowden and M. Garnerin on Monday, were yesterday kept in great anxiety respecting their success, as late in the day no accounts had been received of them. We are happy to state, however, that they alighted tolerably safe on a common four miles beyond Colchester before 6 o'clock. This journey they performed in three quarters of an hour from the time of their ascending at Ranelagh.— The distance is 60 miles; and it is, we believe, the first time so great a space was crossed in so short a period. Unfortunately by the violence of the wind the balloon has been destroyed; but this loss, we hope, will be compensated to the Aeronaut by the additional curiosity that must be excited, and the additional patronage that must be gained to the ascent on Saturday from Lord's Cricket Ground, by the example of this daring enterprise. Indeed, considering the state of the weather, and the wind blowing directly towards the ocean, it required the utmost courage and resolution to undertake it. Many people at Ranelagh wished M. Garnerin to postpone his ascent, but he undauntedly persevered. The firmness of his companion, who made a first attempt in such circumstances, must be greatly admired.

The following are the first authentic advices that arrived from the voyagers. That from Captain Sowden was, with much attention to the public feeling, left at Hookham's, to satisfy the universal anxiety.

Letter received by Colonel Greville from Captain Sowden:

"DEAR GREVILLE,  
Colchester, June 29.  
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R. C. SOWDEN."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM M. GARNERIN, TO ONE OF HIS FRIENDS IN LONDON, DATED COLCHESTER, 29TH JUNE, ONE IN THE MORNING.

I take the earliest opportunity of informing you, that after a very pleasant journey, but the most dangerous descent I ever made, on account of the boisterous weather, and the vicinity of the sea, we alighted at a distance of four miles from this place, and sixty from Ranelagh. We remained only three-quarters of an hour on the road (in the air); to-night I intend to be in London with my balloon, which is all to pieces, as well as the netting. We ourselves are all over bruises, &c.

We hoped to have been able to have furnished our readers with farther particulars of this interesting voyage, but at one o'clock this morning M. Garnerin and Captain Sowden had not reached town.

An Emigrant Priest was heard on Monday afternoon to inform one of his countrymen, that an air balloon was always let off to announce the dissolution of Parliament!

The whole expence of the two Fêtes of the Pic Nic Society, at Ranelagh, including 500L paid to GARNERIN, was 2000L. The money paid for tickets, and for admission at the doors, amounted only to 200L, consequently the Subscribers have 1000L to make good.

A paper of yesterday whimsically combines the three great objects of attention on Monday at the West end of the Town. These were "the Royal procession—an exhibition in the pillory—and the ascent of GARNERIN's balloon!"

An unfortunate accident happened at Buckingham Gate on Monday afternoon. A gentleman driving in his one horse chaise, just as Garnerin's balloon appeared, was thrown out with great violence, as he turned the corner close by the Horse and Groom public house, and fell on the back part of his head, on the edge of the curb stone. This misfortune was occasioned by the horse taking fright at the concourse of people assembled to see the ascent of the balloon. He was taken to the Westminster Hospital. *June 30. 1802*

The late Duke of Orleans was one of those who ventured up in a Balloon; but the valve for the descent not answering as it ought, he cut the Balloon with a sabre, and let it come to the ground, which it did gently without any accident.

M. Garnerin's aerial voyage on Monday last, was the twenty-fifth which that Gentleman had made.

It is said, that should the weather prove so unfavourable to-day as to prevent M. Garnerin's ascending with the parachute, Captain Sowden has offered to accompany him again in the car of the Balloon.

Captain Sowden, who accompanied M. Garnerin in his late aerial excursion, possesses a very handsome fortune, recently left him by a distant relation.

A Balloon was last week let off at Paris, and a man of the name of GARNERIN, with a young Lady, ascended in it. It rose majestically to an immense height, and after continuing stationary for some time there, a gentle breeze carried it from Paris, and it descended in a village a few miles off. *July 17. 1802.*

Among the aerostatic novelties of Paris, is the ascension of a man and horse in a balloon. This we should suppose to be the most expeditious mode of travelling possible, and to exceed greatly our flying waggon, flying dillys, and flying coaches.

The great object of Citizen GARNERIN, in his aeronautic expedition, appears to have been to obtain the air of the higher regions, which was some degree more impure than that which he breathed on *terra firma*. The Philosophers of Lapura bottled up Sun Beams, for the purpose of ripening cucumbers: thus it appears that it is not only in moral but even in physical pursuits that the French condescend to profit by the wisdom of the flying Island. *1798.*

Citizen GARNERIN, who has lately ascended in a balloon, has written a long Letter to the Editor of the French Paper *L'Echo*, in which he enlarges on the great advantages likely to result from aerostatic expeditions. The chief of these which he enumerates, is that of conveying intelligence from the Fleet with the utmost speed. Unfortunately for the Great Nation, their naval news always comes too expeditiously for them. *1798.*

GARNERIN, the Parisian Aeronaut, whom we announced some time ago as preparing to pay a visit in his balloon to some of the European Sovereigns, came back again to earth within three-quarters of an hour after he ascended. He has therefore postponed his great journey to the 14th of July, a memorable day for French extravagancies. *July 1801.*

Citizen GARNERIN, irritated by some observation of the Newspaper wits of Paris, on his aerial voyage of the 14th July, has published some details respecting that voyage. On that day he ascended from the Champs Elysees, accompanied by his wife, and the Citizens NOLIN and BEAUVAIS; in the evening he discontinued his voyage at Fentis Jouarre. It was resumed on the following morning by the Citizens NOLIN and BEAUVAIS only. The new voyagers were buffeted by the winds; they encountered squalls and torrents; they ran over the departments of Seine and Marne, of the Marne, the borders of that of the Ardennes, and then that of the Aisne, in which they descended at Saint Thibaud, near the house of Citizen D'ORMESSON. Departing thence, after a stay of one hour, they coasted along the department of the Somme, from which they were borne back on that of the North. At Trelon, near Maubeuge, they were under a necessity of descending once more, with the intention of remounting again the moment after. Vain hope! the peasants of the village having tampered with the balloon, rendered it impossible for them to proceed; and the aeronauts were confounded for this vexation only by the excellent reception which they met with from Citizen LEMMERS. *Oct. 3. 1801.*

Citizen GARNERIN wishes to be appointed aeronaut to the French government; but the government, though professing the highest wishes to encourage his talents, has declined his request.—France has been so much censured for innovation, that they are probably afraid of being the first to take aeronauts into the public service. The matter might be accommodated by a little change in the title—the appellation of *Admiral of the Clouds* would probably meet the wishes of both parties. *Oct. 3. 1801.*

The 14th inst. was to have been a grand day at Paris; being the anniversary of that devastating hydra, the French Revolution. Among other intended amusements, the Aeronaut GARNERIN was to ascend in a balloon. He gives the following account of his intended journey:—"The balloon in which I am to ascend, in company with three other persons, will afford me every means of making the long voyage which has for some time engaged my attention. This ascent, which is to be preceded by four other balloons, will be the grandest that has ever taken place.

"The detonating globe that is to precede the exhibition of the fire-works, will be attended with extraordinary effects: it is the balloon of taffety, in which I last ascended, that will be employed for this purpose." *1801.*

GARNERIN, the French balloon-man, was right, when, according to *The Morning Chronicle*, he ascended with the English and French flags in union, to announce to the powers of the air the re-establishment of Peace on earth; for the Prince of the Power of the Air has undoubtedly sufficient cause to rejoice in the completion of the present Preliminaries. *1801.*

Among the first importations from France we find M. Garnerin, who ascended from the Champ de Mars, by a balloon in 1800; and descended by means of a parachute. He landed at Dover on Thursday last, and has brought his apparatus with him to make the same experiments in England. *April 1802.*

The Regatta Fête, in Honour of the Peace, will be given at Ranelagh on the 23d inst. The following Ladies keep Books, a Copy of which is left at Mr. HOOKHAM's, for the insertion of Subscribers' Names:

Duchess of DEVONSHIRE,  
Marchioness of SALISBURY,  
Countess of CHOLMONDELEY,  
Viscountess MELBOURNE.

*June 17. 1802.*

Mr. GARNERIN, on that day and evening, will exhibit his day and night Balloons. Further particulars may be known, by applying to Messrs. HOOKHAM and EBER'S, No. 15, Old Bond-street.

Saturday being the day fixed upon for Mr. Garnerin's second ascent in his balloon, from which he was to descend by means of a Parachute, vast numbers of people were collected at three o'clock about Lord's Ground, from which place the Balloon was to ascend. M. Garnerin, in consequence of the high wind and heavy rains, not choosing to make the ascent, had hand-bills distributed, and placards affixed, informing the publick the experiment was put off till Monday, at four o'clock, when it will be made, if the weather is more favourable. The balloon was sent away to the Pantheon in a cart, followed by a vast concourse of people. The cart was surmounted by a tall Frenchman, with a tremendous large cocked hat, and whose figure was the most grotesque imaginable. The populace, by the time it arrived near the Pantheon, became irritated at their disappointment, and it was found necessary to convey the Balloon to Marlborough-street, where it was placed, by order of the Magistrates, under the care of the Police Officers. Thousands of persons continued flocking to Marybone, long after the Balloon had been sent back to the Pantheon. *April 29. 1802.*

M. GARNERIN, the Aeronaut, who has made himself celebrated by the experiments he has made with the Parachute, in descending from immense heights, is arrived in England, and will, no doubt, shew his daring adventure in London. *1802. May.*

PANTHEON.  
IMMENSE PARACHUTE, of the Invention of the celebrated Aeronaut GARNERIN, whose flight in England has already been announced in the newspaper, will be exhibited at the above Place on the 10th and following days, together with a Balloon of 20,000 feet. It is with this Parachute that Mr. Garnerin has already descended four times from the upper air of the air. The English Nation, so remarkable for encouragement it has always given to useful discoveries, decide on the merits of this experiment, which will be repeated by this Aeronaut. It has already met with approbation of the French Consular Government, which rewarded Mr. Garnerin with a superb Fusil d'Honneur, and will likewise be exhibited at the Pantheon, and also a Bonaparte, on the head of which will burn the fire of a lamp kept up by means of a thermo-lamp recently invented. Garnerin will ascend from twelve till five o'clock. Admittance One Shilling. *May 7. 1802.*

PANTHEON, May 28, 1802.—BALLOONS AND PARACHUTE.—The Public are most respectfully informed, that the EXHIBITION of M. GARNERIN'S BALLOONS and PARACHUTE, which was advertised for the 21st of June next, at Marlborough Gardens, Chelsea, is unavoidably Postponed for a few days, in consideration of the damage that might accrue to the neighbouring Gardens and Grasps Roads, from the great concourse of persons who are expected to visitable; an inconvenience that M. Garnerin would most anxiously avoid. It is in contemplation to obtain the use of a more central and eligible spot, of which public notice will be forthwith given.—All Tickets issued for Marlborough Gardens will be received at such place; and, in the mean time, the Exhibition of the Balloons and Parachute will continue as usual at the Pantheon, Oxford-street.

M. GARNERIN, the aeronaut, we have no doubt will have sufficient encouragement in this country. We believe too that these are the only high flying projects that will meet with a good reception! *1802.*

ASCENSION in a BALLOON, and DESCENT in a PARACHUTE. *1802.*  
On the 2d of June next, the celebrated Aeronaut, GARNERIN, will ascend from MARLBOROUGH GARDEN, between the King's-road and Black-lane, Chelsea, into the upper Regions of the Air, and when at the distance of 10,000 feet from the Earth, separate from his Balloon, and let himself down, without any other assistance than that of his Parachute.  
This Experiment, so wonderful by the learning and courage it requires, will be made at Three o'Clock in the afternoon.  
Admittance to the Seats in the Garden, next to the Parachute, Half-a-Guinea; Second Places, Five Shillings.  
Tickets are now delivering at the Marlborough Tavern; at Mr. Carbery's, No. 31, Conduit-street; and at the Pantheon, Oxford-street, where the Balloon, Parachute, and all the Aerial Machines are now exhibiting, and will continue to be so to the 15th of June, the Days of Experiments excepted.  
Admittance, at the Pantheon, One Shilling.  
Fine weather being absolutely necessary for the Parachute Experiment, both for the gratification of the Public, and the Aeronaut's safety, in case of a boisterous wind, that Experiment will be put off to the 8th; but that the Public may not be disappointed, Mr. Garnerin, in spite of the wind, will ascend without a Parachute, and give a sight of the most extraordinary Aerial Voyage ever made in Great Britain.

The Members of the Pic-Nic Society, it is said, give an Aquatrick Fête on the 21st instant, in honour of the Peace, on which occasion M. Garnerin will cause a balloon to ascend from one of the boats stationed upon the Thames. *June 5. 1802.*

*June 24. 1802. REGATTA FÊTE.*

THERE not being a sufficient Number of SUBSCRIBERS to the FÊTE, to warrant the giving it on the Plan originally proposed by Mr. GREVILLE, and it being judged advisable not to disappoint the general expectation, the present Subscribers and the Public are informed, that on TUESDAY Night, there will be

A BALL AND SUPPER

At Ranelagh: from the Gardens of which place, Mr. GARNERIN'S NIGHT BALLOON, and Mr. RUGGIERI'S COMET will be displayed.

AND ON MONDAY

THE REGATTA FÊTE will take place on the Thames, and a BREAKFAST and DINNER will be prepared, by Mr. ESCUDIER, with WINES, &c. at Ranelagh; and at Five o'Clock Mr. GARNERIN will ascend from the Gardens in his GREAT BALLOON, richly decorated with Flags of different Nations, in Honour of the Peace.

Tickets for Subscribers to be taken out at No. 8, in Stratton-street; or at Mr. Hookham's, in Old Bond-street, on this day and to-morrow.

The Price 10 guineas for four Tickets, or two guineas for the Ball and Supper on Friday, and one guinea for the Breakfast, with admission to the Garden to see the Balloon ascend on Monday next.

Mr. Escudier begs leave to inform the Public, that he has taken upon himself all the Preparations that had been made by the Pic-Nic Society.

M. Garnerin, the celebrated Aeronaut, after his proposed exhibition at Ranelagh, will, it is said, early in the ensuing month, ascend from Lord's Cricket-ground, and let himself down in a parachute, at the moderate height of 10,000 feet, leaving his Balloon behind him to its fate. *June 24. 1802.*

*June 25. AIR BALLOON.*

We learn with pleasure that the celebrated Aeronaut, GARNERIN, has the more readily acceded to the terms and solicitations of the managers of a private society, to make in his balloon an ascension from Ranelagh, as this first excursion is the more likely to prepare and stimulate the attention and judgment of the public to the merit and novelty of his philosophical researches, and the wonderful discoveries which are to be exemplified in his experiments. National liberality will, we trust, with its usual and becoming pride, rival, in this instance, every other occasion, and gratified curiosity repay, with proper encouragement, the bold exertions of the successful philosopher, distinguished already by twenty-five various ascensions. The balloon which is to carry this daring stranger through the aerial regions, we understand, is the same which was launched in Paris, before Bonaparte and Lord CORNWALLIS. Great as the public curiosity may appear in this first instance, our further expectation is greatly excited, we own, to the event of his second ascension, which is publicly announced for the private benefit of the Aeronaut, and is to take place at Lord's Cricket-ground, in the New-road, Mary-la-bone, about three o'clock in the afternoon of July 3. This last ascension is absolutely novel, and proportionably interesting, inasmuch as Mr. GARNERIN, after having risen to the height of 10,000 feet, is to let himself down by means of a parachute. This wonderful experiment, and the convenience of the spot, altogether promise an adequate harvest both in the field of glory and fortune.

We should think that none of the Pic-Nic managers will venture in Mr. GARNERIN's balloon, which is to ascend in honour of their fete. The natural levity of that society would make the balloon rise much farther than intended, unless it were to take in as ballast the works of some of their own authors, the gravity of which would faithfully point downwards! *1802.*

## AERIAL NAVIGATION. Sept 1797

[This curious Article is taken from the *Republique Francaise*.]

Citizen Campenæus, Hydraulic Engineer, wrote, some months ago the following letter to General Buonaparte. The Author desires us to publish it; and we are of opinion that it will certainly excite much curiosity:

To Citizen BUONAPARTE. General in Chief of the army of Italy.

"Citizen General,  
"Your glorious campaigns, directed by the new Government of the French Republic, have at length foreseen the dawn of a general Peace over the continent.

"The only enemy which remains for you to combat, is separated from us by the sea. Finish, in the wise manner in which you have begun, the work of a Continental Peace; and then come and repose yourself awhile among us under your laurels. You will behold with pleasure the flourishing state of the arts, which you have cherished from your infancy, and of which you are a well beloved pupil. Your multiplied conquests have recovered them from that abyss into which destructive War had plunged them. The Artist who addresses you, filled with the most lively gratitude, will erect, if the means of execution be afforded him, a vast edifice, whence, at the conclusion of his labours, there will issue an aerial vessel, capable of carrying up with you more than two hundred persons, and which may be directed to any point of the compass. I myself will be your pilot.

"You can thus, without any danger, hover above the Fleets of Enemies jealous of our happiness, and thunder against them like a new Jupiter, merely by throwing perpendicularly downwards fire-brands made of a substance which will kindle only by the contact and percussion at the end of its fall, but which it will be impossible to extinguish: or perhaps you may think it more prudent to begin at once, by forcing the British Cabinet to capitulate, which you may easily do, as you will have it in your power to set fire to the City of London, or to any of the maritime towns of England. From the calculations I have made, I am convinced, that, with this machine, you may go from Paris to London, and return back again to Paris, in twenty-four hours, without descending.

"The period of this enterprise, if my humble voice can be heard, is not far distant. A single campaign would be sufficient to realise the whole of my plan. Design, then, to promote its execution, by your correspondence with the Executive Directory of the French Republic. I have not yet made any proposal to the Government, because it would require one million to carry through this project effectually, and the expences of the War have hitherto absorbed the whole of the revenues of France.

"The object I propose is, to establish, in the great Ocean of the Atmosphere, a General Navigation, infinitely more certain and more advantageous than Maritime Navigation, which has ever disturbed the tranquillity of mankind; to restore the perfect liberty of Commerce, and to give peace and happiness to all the Nations of the Universe, and unite them as one family. By great labour I have surmounted the multiplied obstacles which presented themselves before me; and my progressive discoveries are developed in a work which I have prepared, consisting of about 400 pages, and divided into five parts.

"I have shewn my work to several learned men of this capital. The Commissioners appointed to take my plan into consideration (two of whom are Members of the National Institute, and formerly were Members of the Academy) have long meditated upon my data, which they have frequently examined with the greatest attention: at last, after a long series of conversations with me, they have testified their approbation in the most unanimous and most earnest manner.

"Every moment of your time, brave General, is occupied by your attention to objects that are conducive to our happiness. I cannot then, and ought not, considering the distance between us, and fearing lest my letter should fall into perfidious hands, transcribe the whole of the long Report that has been made upon this subject. I shall simply present you with an extract from the last part of it.

### EXTRACT FROM THE CONCLUSION OF THE REPORT.

"In the fifth and last part of the work we find details which the Author had preserved of his first experiments on Aerostation; and we learn that this Artist had hitherto experienced only disappointment; but it is obvious that his combinations and his data carry with them all the characteristics of reason and truth.

"We lastly proceeded to consider the experiments which the Engineer Campenæus has lately made, with a view to the construction of Aerostatic Machines; and directing them to useful purposes. We are convinced with him, as we have already observed, that the larger the Aerostatic Machines are made, the more easy will it be to direct them—because they will present in the air less relative resistance in proportion to the number of men they may carry, and consequently insure the progress of the direction. Indeed, if we consider the united strength of 200 men against the wind, and submit the power of both to calculation, it will be seen that the force of the men will be suddenly inferior to that of the wind. We are therefore convinced, that it would be highly advantageous to give Citizen Campenæus zealous and faithful co-operators to assist him in the construction of this Machine.—If we consider attentively the immense treasures which Maritime Navigation absorbs, there is nothing extravagant in suggesting that three or four millions might be laid out, if necessary, to realize an attempt, the success of which must add to the happiness of all the Nations of the Globe.

"Besides, such an enterprize, if completely successful, would afford a double advantage to the Country. The building which Citizen Campenæus proposes to establish, and which may be constructed in the Champs-Elysées, would always present a monument worthy of the Republic. In it all the civic festivals might be celebrated, and all the meetings performed which require great space, and of course cannot be exhibited in bad weather. This building is the Aerostatic Dock; and Ports and Wharfs may be multiplied in proportion as new vessels are constructed. The advantages which Navigation of this kind would infallibly produce, are so amply demonstrated in the work of Citizen Campenæus, that we do not hesitate to recommend the prompt execution of his plan."

V.P.S. In my treatise on Aerostation, I promise that the capital city of each country shall

have a Dock for building Aerostatic vessels; and an Aerostatic Port, having a number of wharfs, on which foreign vessels may at all times descend, and remain without danger a sufficient time to unload, make commercial exchanges, take in fresh cargoes, rest, &c. But, while these vessels are under sail, the smallest of which will carry more than two hundred persons, they will have no occasion to descend for the purpose of exchanging or purchasing commodities. Their powers of direction, by which they are enabled to make way against the strongest winds, will serve to make them ascend or descend, or remain stationary at any height required. Two atmospheric buoys, each surmounted with a parachute, to be used in case of any accident, must be placed in the two pavilions with which the two extremities of the gallery of the vessel ought to terminate, and may be let down or taken up at the pleasure of the crew, with men, provisions, or articles of any kind necessary for manœuvring the vessel.

"Finally, another small cylindrical buoy may be let down from the centre pavilion (for the gallery ought to have three pavilions), which would serve to receive, until a general Peace, the capitulations of the Fortresses, &c., belonging to our remaining enemies. During Peace this buoy might serve to give and receive intelligence, either by day or night (for it can be illuminated), upon a plan previously concerted.

"My work, besides, contains all the details necessary to this kind of sailing, and an Atmospheric Code, the regulations of which have for their sole object the Peace and the Happiness of all the People of the Earth.

(Signed)  
"CAMPENÆUS, Hydraulic Engineer."

## AIR BALLOON. Oct 16. 1797

The following is extracted from the last Paris Papers.

The Aerostatic experience of Citizen GARNERIN, who on the 22nd of August failed, owing to the cord breaking, completely succeeded the day before yesterday, in the Garden of Mousseaux. The Balloon was of taffety, and 18 feet high; it was filled at half after five. Citizen LALAND took it to the midst of the Inclosure, and the young Physician said with a loud voice, "If I repair this day the misfortune with which they have so much reproached me I shall owe it to the protecting genius which has covered me with his ægis," but Citizen LALAND said, he had no other merit than that of having defended Citizen GARNERIN against calumny. The latter rose amidst the applauses of an immense assembly, who followed them with their eyes. The Aerostat took a Westward direction. The Car was filled with little bags of earth, which the Physician threw from time to time to diminish the weight and rise with more ease. He was often seen in the highest region of the atmosphere, waving his flag towards the place where the Public were assembled. In a few moments after he was out of sight. Citizen LALAND assured us that his plan was to descend in Champaign. The air, which was very calm, and the little that remained of day prevented him from pursuing his voyage so far. He descended in the plan of St. Denis, at eight o'clock. It was on his return to the Garden that he received the compliments of all who were assembled to see the exhibition of fireworks of Citizen BERNARD, and a fine illumination. The Globe was still nearly full, but Citizen GARNERIN was in want of repose, and the Public would not abuse his good nature.

## M. GARNERIN.

ANY particulars concerning this adventurous person must be amusing to the Publick:—

He is a native of Paris, and the son of a Pewterer in that capital. His father, though very far from being in opulent circumstances, sent him to the University at an early age, but it cannot be said that he went through any thing like a regular course of studies, as he only remained three years at College, and never entered the class of Natural Philosophy.

It was at the period that the noted Montgolfier first invented and exhibited his Balloon, when young Garnerin, more captivated by the new discovery, than in love with classical learning, soon conceived the idea of making little Balloons for himself, and of letting them out from his chamber windows. The Principal of the College, however, seeing that he totally neglected his studies for the pursuit of such baubles, told him, in the most peremptory manner, that he should either abjure his Balloon, or quit the Seminary. Garnerin preferred the latter, and went home to his father, who was far from being satisfied with his conduct.

When the Revolution broke out, which was soon after his leaving college, he became a volunteer in the Parisian National Guard; and though he proved very attentive to his military avocations, he did not lose sight of his favourite amusement. Not having money sufficient to purchase a Balloon himself, he applied to a rich and avaricious person, who bought one for him, and gave him a mere trifle for ascending in it, on condition that he should receive the cash which the public were to pay for admission. Even this proposal was acceded to by Garnerin. His parents, however, learning that he was on the eve of going up in a balloon, applied to the Mayor of Paris, and conjured him to prevent their son from exposing himself to such imminent danger. But the Magistrate—it was the unfortunate Bailly)—refused to interfere, saying that the business was not within the sphere of his jurisdiction—the distracted father and mother then waited on Gen. La Fayette, who was Commander in Chief of the Parisian Guard, and begged he would interpose his military authority, and not suffer the giddy youth to ascend. M. La Fayette, in compliance with their request, sent a file of soldiers to put the young adventurer in confinement; but Garnerin seeing the men

approach, and guessing their intention, immediately drew his sabre, threatened to run the first person through who should interrupt him, cut the cords which kept the balloon to the ground, and ascended with the utmost velocity, amidst the acclamations of thousands.

When the monster Robespierre filled France with widows and orphans, the Revolutionary Committee of Public Safety deputed GARNERIN to the Army of the North, then commanded by General RANSONNET. He appeared there in the capacity of Commissioner, and was invested with extraordinary powers.

His functions called him to Marchiennes, in Flanders, a few days before the Austrians attacked that place and carried it. The Austrian division was under the immediate command of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, and GARNERIN became a prisoner to the British; he was sent with the others, about 1600, to Oudenard, whence he escaped about two months after, but was retaken almost immediately. He passed into the hands of the Austrians, was conveyed up the Danube, into Hungary, where he remained till he was exchanged. He complains highly of the French Government, and certainly not without just cause, for having refused to pay him his arrears during the period of his captivity!

GARNERIN is of a very diminutive size, and is in his thirty third year.

He is married to a lady of similar dispositions to his own, who sometimes accompanies him in his aerial excursions; she however, with laudable deference, gives up the whole honour of adventuring in our boisterous regions to her husband.

July 1802

## M. GARNERIN,

Whose bold aerial excursion has, within these two or three days, been the almost universal topic of conversation, is a native of Paris, and the son of a Pewterer in that capital. His father, though very far from being in opulent circumstances, sent him to the University at an early age, but it cannot be said that he went through any thing like a regular course of studies, as he only remained three years at College, and never entered the class of Natural Philosophy. It was at the period that the noted MONTGOLFIER first invented and exhibited his Balloon, young GARNERIN, more captivated by the new discovery than in love with classical learning, soon conceived the idea of making little Balloons for himself, and of letting them out from his chamber windows. The Principal of the College, however, seeing that he totally neglected his studies for the pursuit of such baubles, told him, in the most peremptory manner, that he should either abjure his Balloon mania, or quit the Seminary. GARNERIN preferred the latter, and went home to his father, who was far from being satisfied with his conduct.

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He appeared there in the capacity of Commissioner, and, as he was known to possess a considerable portion of inflammable matter, he was invested with extraordinary powers.

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GARNERIN is of a small size, and is in his thirty third year. He was bearer of commendatory letters from Mr. L. GOLDSMITH to Lord STANHOPE, &c.

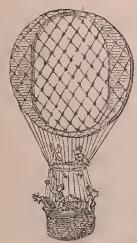
THE MAN IN THE MOON.



PREVAILING scarcity having extended from coin and potatoes to jokes and subjects for allusion, we determined upon accompanying the "Columbus of the skies" (as Mr. Green is emphatically called

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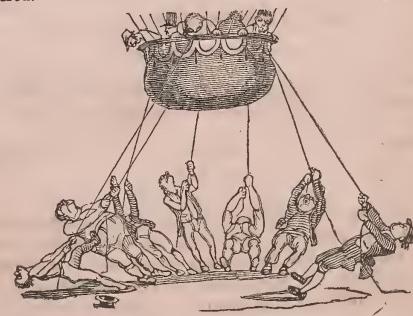
in the powerful language of Cremorne) to the realms of air, to see if there was anything there that had not yet been used up. We were also anxious to pay a visit to the real MAN IN THE MOON, and present him with a copy of our work, in person; we wished to experience a new sensation; and we thought that it was time our efforts should take a higher flight than we had hitherto essayed. We were ready also for a lark, and we thought the skies the best place to find one. A friend wished us to accommodate him by taking up some bills, which the ascending power of the great Nassau could do to any amount: in the present dearth of theatrical talent—especially after Macready's late failure at the Princess's—we wanted to see what stars were out of engagements; and above all, a fair friend had requested as to procure her a sky terrier. And so, with all these inducements, we did not dissent to the ascent, but made our will with the aid of sixpenny worth of "plain instructions," and prepared for the worst.

N MONDAY, the seventh of the past June, we had this opportunity of taking the air in a manner we had never before experienced—of filling the office of overseer of every parish in London at once—of adding our name to the list of daring Balloonatics who had preceded us, and descended again safely enough to be our Airthshire legatees had we required them: of meeting Mr. Green in his own element: and with our companions, full of spirits, appropriately turning into car-boys.

Cremorne, for the benefit of our readers in the country, is a bairnial residence, situated two minutes to the west of Battersea-bridge, with a fine track of country surrounding it, the principal productions of which are polkas, fireworks, balloons, comic songs, and sherry-cobblers; forming the principal articles of commerce. An extensive trade is also carried on in tea and shrimps, both of

which are admitted without duty, the landing place being a free port. The port of the Gardens, however, is not altogether free—from foreign substances; but the greater part of the champagne, from the adjacent healthy nurseries of Battersea, may be drunk with impunity, being unadulterated with any foreign substances. Dinners of fish on the same scale—or rather in the same scales—as those at Blackwall may be had; but it is worth while to mention that you pay nearly the same whether you have cold meat and salad, or salmon and broiled fowl: the proprietor's notions of "1 Dinner" being limited to the fact of ordering anything on the *carte*, within reason.

Our first view of the balloon was nearly that which we have represented at the head of this narrative. From the Gardens it looked something like the dome of St. Paul's out on a spree, and rather overcome with drink; for it rolled about vaguely, restless of confinement, and now and then took a rise out of the hands of the stalwart men who held it, and behaved in a manner altogether unbecoming, when the important trust about to be confided to it was considered.



THE DISGRACEFUL LEVITY OF THE BALLOON.

#### THE MAN IN THE MOON.

The balloon was surrounded by a large crowd of visitors, anxious to see us turned off. We partook of a hearty dinner, and, as the adjacent clock of Chelsea tolled the hour of seven, the procession commenced in the following order; everybody trying hard to look as though they did not care about it; but in that state denominated by the ancient Greeks a *Φυγή*:

M. Laurent's Band, playing a dead march.  
Company. Mr. Green. Company.  
Some people who got in the way.  
Mr. Dawes,  
(formerly much better known as "Charles," at the Albion, carrying the stores for the journey—viz., Champagne.)  
Teas. Friends of the Aéronauts; Teas.  
(proud to know them, and shake hands with them before lots of people.)  
Some more people who got in the way.  
Admirers. A Gent. Admirers.  
(wishing it to be thought that he was going up.)

#### THE MAN IN THE MOON,

Accompanied by nine gentlemen, eminently distinguished in the Arts and Sciences, who honoured him with their company to the skies.

Shillings. Waiters. Shillings.  
'Οι πολλαῖς.

We had been recommended to go on the hoop—a circle of cane, to which the netting of the balloon and the ropes of the car (which is a grand name for a large baker's basket) are attached; and, accordingly, we, with some difficulty, climbed there. This view, taken on the spot, represents

#### THE MAN IN THE MOON.



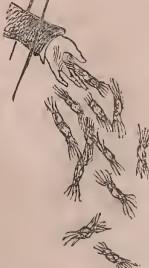
OUR CONTEMPTIBLE EFFORTS TO GET ON TO THE HOOP.

But, when once there, the seat is very comfortable; and one which we really recommend all future visitors to take, for reasons to be hereafter explained. At the same time a ladder should be provided for the ascent—such as in olden times was found at the coaching inns for outside ladies. For all dignity is lost in the struggle.

At length, when Mr. Green had hailed the last traveller with, "Going up, Sir?" we were all ready to ascend. We bade our friends farewell, and tried to smile, but it was a failure. Nor was the nervousness diminished by the last speech made by one of our party, that "he hoped all who heard him would avoid the bad company of aéronauts, as that, with drinking and joke-writing, had brought him to this sad end." He also added, "that he went up

## THE MAN IN THE MOON.

in peace with everybody, and had left his keys behind the looking-glass." And when this touching speech had been given, Mr. Green pulled the liberating trigger, and up we went, taking some cracker *bon-bons* from our pocket, which we distributed to the crowd as



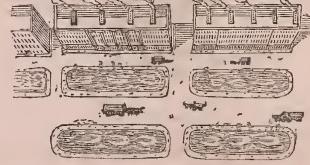
OUR PARTING GIFT.

The above sketch is drawn with singular fidelity. The action, in the crowd, is well preserved; and their anxiety to catch the *souvenirs* vividly depicted. The likeness to ourselves is also admirably caught, especially about the wristband.

For the first minute or two of our ascent we were too much excited to notice anything. Everything seemed falling away from us; going rapidly down whilst we were stationary—as objects appear to do when more wine has been drunk than is proper. We heard the visitors' huzzahs, and saw them gradually assuming the

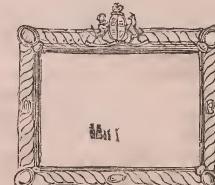
## THE MAN IN THE MOON.

appearance of the intelligent inhabitants of Noah's Ark; and then we noticed



EUSTON-SQUARE, AS IT APPEARED FROM THE BALLOON,

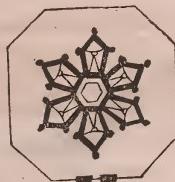
at which we had scarcely done gazing when our eyes were delighted with a picture which must excite enthusiasm in every British heart, even before Winterhalter's. It was that of



THE QUEEN, PRINCE ALBERT, AND ROYAL FAMILY, WALKING IN BUCKINGHAM PALACE, AS THEY APPEARED FROM THE BALLOON.

We gave them three cheers, which, we are afraid, they did not hear, and threw down our last *bon-bons* to the Royal children, which Mr. Green was much pleased at; as, if we had popped them, he assured us the balloon would have gone off with a bang, and we should have come down to earth much more rapidly than we expected.

## THE MAN IN THE MOON.



THE PENITENTIARY, SEEN FROM THE BALLOON,

was the next object of attraction; but, as we were already familiar with the view, from the map of London, it had not any peculiar charm of novelty. Much more interesting was the view of London, which we shall describe as if we were writing for some High Art publication. Order!

Yes—there it lay—that mighty Babylon in which so many noble minds were struggling and breaking down, calmly sleeping in the warm glow of eventide, as its thousand vane and pinnacles reflected the light in twinkling brightness! And far off—out and away in the grey distance—did its polypus arms extend. And every speck that dotted its swarming expanse was the home, and hearth, and holy sanctuary of domestic loves, and trials, and bloodless battles nobly won; and every mite that traversed its tiny streets had a heart, and impulse, and affections, with ourselves. Oh! human vanity! oh, soaring, empty conceit of man! how dost thou fall to less than nothingness, when we thus behold the forms in which thou workest—grains of life on the vast system of being!

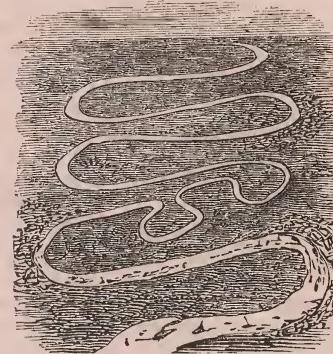
That's the way to do it; and no wonder everybody is so fond of it, when it's so easy. *Mais revenons, &c.* The view of London is very wonderful; such a city as you would build upon a billiard table with lots of little Dutch toy villages; with people very like the distinguished individuals who throng the streets in the ILLUSTRATED NEWS' view of Dublin. But the river is equally wonderful, and especially

## THE MAN IN THE MOON.



THE STEAMERS, AS THEY APPEAR FROM THE BALLOON

shooting out two trains behind them, like water-rockets. But, with regard to the river itself, we never knew, until we took the bird's-eye view which the present trip allowed us to,



WHY IT IS SO FAR TO MARGATE BY WATER.

We sailed merrily on, but were somewhat disappointed at not being able to have an interview with our proprietor, for the Moon was not yet up. But we had plenty to occupy our attention, never having seen a "Map of the country for twenty miles round Loudon" on such an extensive scale before. We passed the Isle

## THE MAN IN THE MOON.

of Dogs, and Blackwall, Plaistow, Woolwich, and Erith; and at last prepared to descend near Rainham, in Essex.

The process of descending is as follows:—Mr. Green throws out a grapnel of iron, about four feet long, which leaps along the ground in a very wonderful manner, and at last holds fast.

The progress of the balloon is thus suddenly checked, and, from the shock, the passengers perform various feats, in the manner of Professor Risley and his Sons, as follows:—



FIRST CHECK OF THE GRAPNEL.

You cannot form a clear notion of those "Bounding Balls of the Balloon" (as an Astley's bill would say), unless you put some corks on a drum, and then give it a good bang, when they will imitate tolerably well the absurd conduct of the passengers when the grapnel first catches. But this is not all that may occur. The

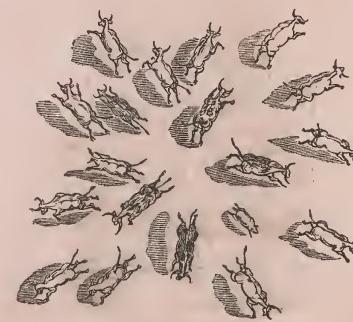
## THE MAN IN THE MOON.



ADVANTAGE OF THE GRAPNEL.

is sometimes shown in hooking up cattle for stores; and this fate nearly befel one of the cows of Mr. Blewitt, the gentleman on whose land we were about to descend, but no connexion with the veteran of the same name from whom "the favour of a song is requested" so often after dinner at the Freemasons'.

The cows appeared, however, to be up to it, and hooked it themselves, lest they should be hooked. Indeed,



THE PANIC OF THE CATTLE, WHEN THEY FIRST SAW THE BALLOON COMING DOWN.

## THE MAN IN THE MOON.

was such, that it formed the most remarkable object during the voyage, and was only exceeded in intensity by the



ALARM OF THE BOY WHOM WE CALLED TO ;

for he, being uneducated, and of a feeble mind, the minute he perceived us, started off across the marshes, and was never seen more.

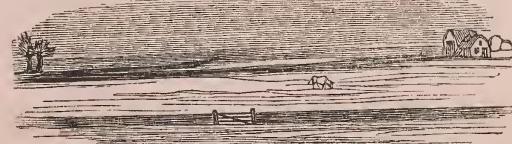
So we came down unaided, and the first bump that the balloon gave against the ground was productive of the most



EXTRAORDINARY CONFUSION ON DESCENDING.

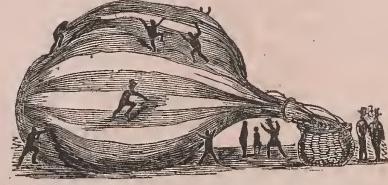
## THE MAN IN THE MOON.

Those on the hoop smashing the hats of those in the car, turning each into a *Gibus*, which shut up very readily, but would not open again into the soup-plate hat, now so fashionable. But, after being so long in suspense, it was comfortable to find ourselves on solid earth.



THE ESSEX MARSHES

are not lively pieces of ground. They are amphibious pastures—so much so, that it is, at times, difficult to tell where the land ends and the water begins. At last, after many ups and downs, like an india-rubber ball thrown out of a nursery window, the balloon was sufficiently steady for us to alight. And then—as it gave up its gas through the "butterfly valve"—it settled over, and, like the dead elephant, majestically sank to the ground. We can scarcely picture



THE DELIGHT OF THE PASSENGERS, AT ONCE MORE FINDING SOMETHING TANGIBLE TO BE UPON.

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It was only exceeded by the alacrity with which they commenced



THE PROCESS OF PACKING UP THE BALLOON,

and putting it into the car, into which one of the travellers, overcome by the excitement and the champagne—which was all along very much up—had previously tumbled.

The greatest bore of all was the coming home. We did not descend on the grounds of any gentleman who “hospitably received” us, but in the middle of a marsh, whence we had three miles to walk to the nearest village. And then horses had to be got, and an omnibus hunted up, and beer distributed in unlimited quantities to the “helpers,” all of which took up two or three hours. However, the trip was well worth the expense. Risk there is none ; Mr. Green is anything but what his name would imply in managing his ship. A novel exhilarating sensation is something now-a-days in these times of go-a-head universal *blasé*-ness, and this you will be certain to experience ; so, when you see “early applications for seats in the car are necessary” in the advertisements, go and make one, at once.

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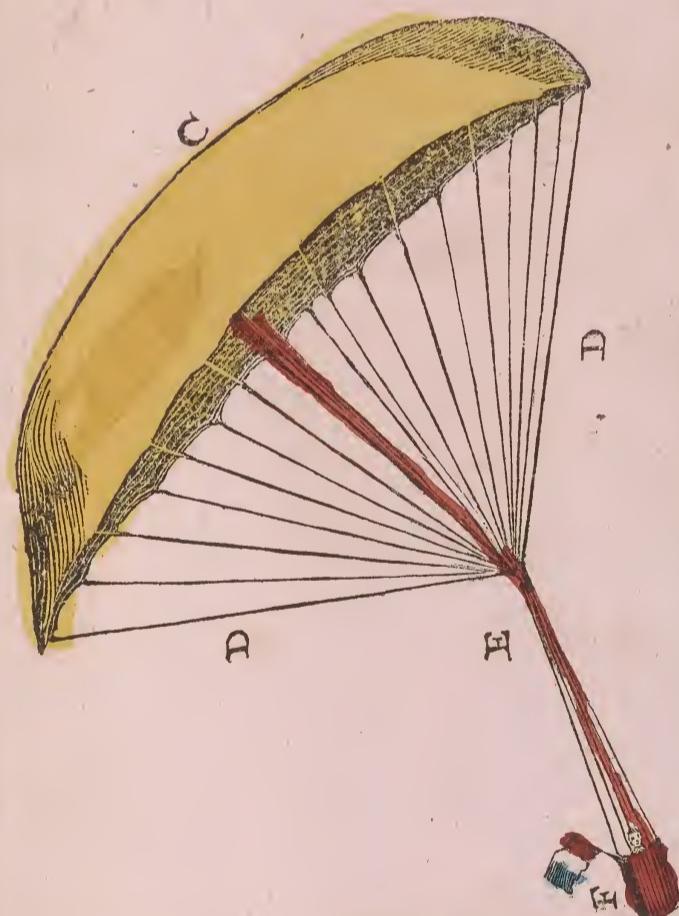
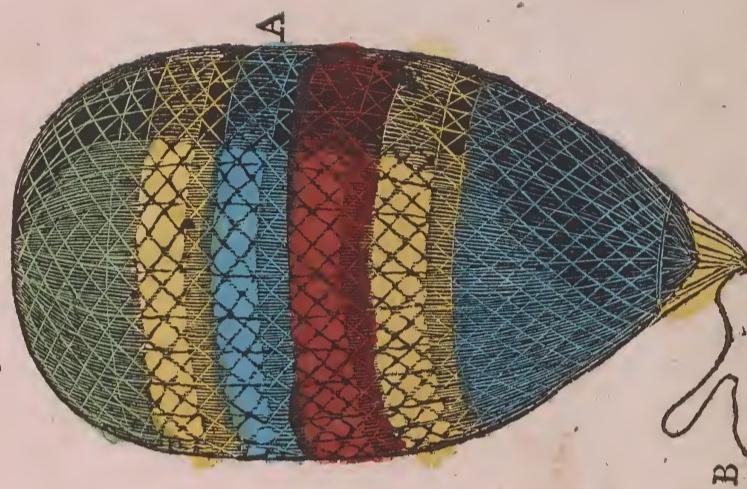
CONTRADICTION IN TERMS.—Accidents are peculiarities which may, but do not necessarily, exist co-incident with any given fact or object. They are, therefore, the reverse of essentials. This does not, however, hold good as to railways—recent events having proved that, on these works, accidents are clearly essentials.

## The Balloon

With which Mr. Garnerin ascended from the Volunteer's Parade, North Audley-street, Grosvenor Square, to the height of 8000 Feet, & the

## Parachute

by which he descended into a Field, near St. Pancras' Church, 21st Sept 1802.



The PARACHUTE, a name composed of Greek and French, signifies "The Breaker of a Fall," or guard against the danger arising from one; as *Parapluie* is for a thick umbrella, which is a protection from rain.

M. Garnerin's Parachute was made of canvas, and about 30 feet in diameter when expanded. In the annexed figure, C represents the surface of canvas, which was, when it ascended, suspended to the Balloon A, by the rope B, which passed through a tin pipe to E, where the ropes DD, affixed to the extremities of the Parachute, met, in order to prevent it from opening too wide. From E was suspended the cylindrical basket F, wherein M. Garnerin took his station.

At one minute before six o'clock, the Balloon with the Parachute attached to it, ascended very majestically, amidst the acclamations of thousands, and rose to such a great and grand altitude, that the numerous spectators viewed it almost perpendicularly with the greatest satisfaction and pleasure.

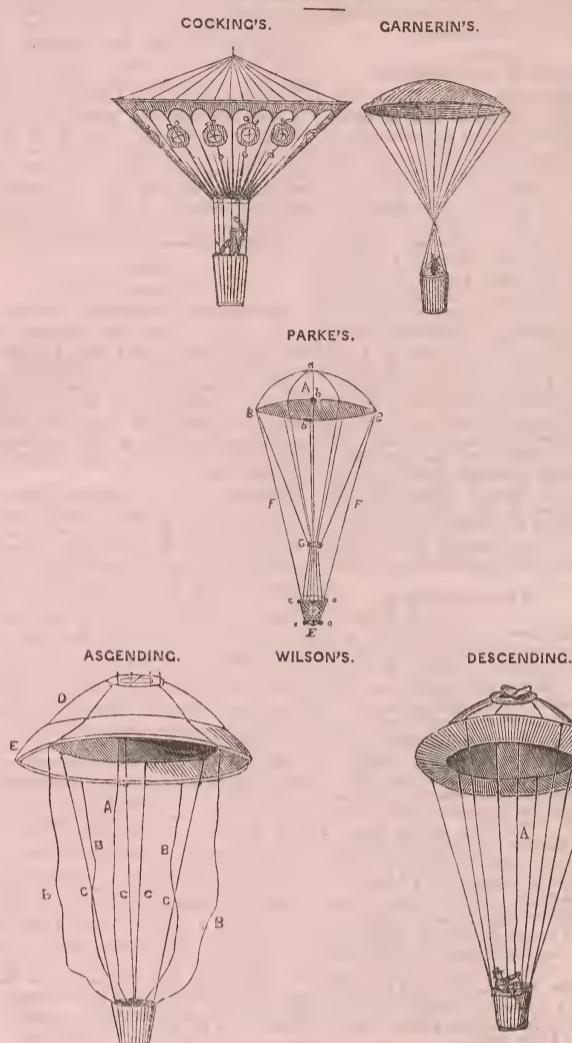
About ten minutes after he ascended he separated himself from the Balloon nearly over Russell Square. The Balloon instantly ascended with surprising rapidity, turning upside down; whilst the Parachute seemed to descend with great velocity, for about half a minute; then it expanded to the view, and, for a minute, inclined slowly towards the earth; afterwards, owing to the want of sufficient ballast, Garnerin was tossed from side to side, like the pendulum of a clock, and sometimes more violently: as represented in the annexed Print,

Printed and sold by J. Davenport, 6, George's Court, Clerkenwell.

# THE PENNY MECHANIC, AND THE CHEMIST.

No. XLVII.] SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1837. [VOL. II.

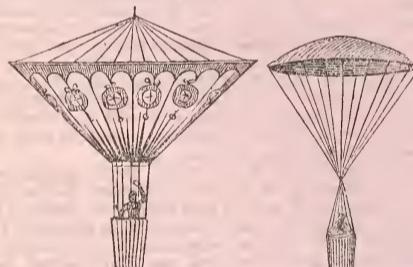
## PARACHUTES.



VOL. II.—No. XLVII.

Holloway Press: D. A. Doudney.

COCKING'S PARACHUTE. GARNERIN'S PARACHUTE.



DESCENT OF GARNERIN'S PARACHUTE  
IN 1802.

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The parachute used by Garnerin on the occasion of his ascension in London, on the 21st of September 1802, was of cotton, and expanded in the manner of an umbrella. At the top of it ran round a hoop eight feet in diameter. In this part also was a circular aperture, where the cylinder terminated the cord by which the parachute was to be fastened to the balloon. The sides of the parachute, when it was expanded, were about fifteen feet long, and formed a sort of curtain. Garnerin placed himself, with a flag in his hand, in the basket suspended from the parachute. The cords by which this basket was fastened to the cotton stuff were tied just above his head in a knot, and from this knot ran cords to the ex-

tremities of the cotton. The cords and basket were about twenty feet long, reckoning from the end of the stuff. This parachute, which was attached to the balloon, hung at a considerable distance beneath it. As the balloon rose, the parachute followed, and it was impossible to view the aeronaut dangling in it at such a prodigious height without shuddering. At length Garnerin cut the cord by which the parachute was fastened to the balloon. At this sight many of the spectators were filled with the greatest alarm, fearing lest they should see him fall every moment. The balloon rose with extraordinary velocity, and the parachute descended with equal rapidity for half a minute, and then sunk slowly to the earth. As there was not sufficient ballast in the parachute, Garnerin swung backward and forward like the pendulum of a clock, but with much greater violence; at length he alighted in safety. The following is Garnerin's account:—

The experiment of my 31st ascent, and of my fifth descent in a parachute, took place on a very fine day, and in the presence of an immense crowd of spec-

tators, who filled the streets, windows, houses, and the scaffoldings erected round the place of my departure, which, alas! was the only spot not crowded with spectators." [The price of admission to St. George's-parade, North Audley-street (the place from whence M. Garnerin ascended) was 5s., but the money taken did not amount to 180*l.*, so that M. Garnerin must have lost considerably by his adventure. The cause is easily accounted for: curiosity is much better gratified by being at a distance from the ascent of a balloon. Persons of the first distinction, however had assembled on the ground, particularly the Earls Camden and Stanhope, Sir Francis Burdett, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan, &c.]

"It is necessary, when I undertake the experiment of the parachute, that I should know the state of the atmosphere, in order to enable me to judge of the course I am to take, and also to adopt the proper precautions to insure success. About three o'clock in the afternoon I had the satisfaction of having a first indication from the agreeable effect of a very pretty Montgolfier balloon, which was set off from the environs of St. George's-parade, and which took a direction over Marylebone-fields.

"The success of this experiment ought not to prevent me from expressing my opinion of the danger that may result to the general safety from the daily abuse of those night experiments which are not always directed by persons conversant with the subject. One shudders to think that a machine of this kind may fall, and fall on fire, upon the cordage of a ship, and thus involve in a great conflagration all that constitutes the wealth of one of the first cities of the world. The use of these machines was prohibited in France, and the Consular Government confided to me alone the direction of night balloons, which I conceived and introduced into the national fêtes.

"Convinced of the direction of the winds, I hastened the filling of the balloon, and at 5 p.m. I filled the pilot balloon, which Mrs. Sheridan did me the honour to launch. It seemed to me that I was conciliating the favour of Heaven by the interference of the Graces. This pilot balloon ascended quickly, and was soon out of sight, marking my career towards the north-east. While the anxious crowd were following the path of my little pilot, I suspended the parachute to the balloon; this painful and difficult operation was executed with all possible address, by the assistance of the most distinguished personages. The parachute was gradually

suspended, and the breeze, which was very gentle, did not produce the least obstacle. At length I hastened to ballast my cylindrical bark, and to place myself in it—a sight which the public contemplated with deep interest; it seemed, at the moment, as if every heart beat with unison: for, though I have not the advantage of speaking English, every one understood my signs. I ascertained the height of the barometer, which was at 29*1/2* inches. I now pressed the moment of my departure, and the period of my fulfilling my engagements with the British public. All the cords were cut; I rose amidst the most expressive silence, and launching into infinite space, discovered from on high their countless multitude that sent up their sighs and prayers for my safety. My parachute, in the form of a dome over my head, had a majestic effect. I quickened my ascending impulse, and rose through light and thin vapours, when the cold informed me that I was entering into the upper region. I perceived I had reached the extremity of the city, and that immense fields and meadows offered themselves for my descent; I examined my barometer, which I found had fallen 43 inches; the sky was clear, the moment favourable, and I threw down my flag, to endeavour to show to the people assembled that I was on the point of cutting the cord that suspended me between heaven and earth.

I made every necessary disposition, prepared my ballast, and measured with my eye the vast space that separated me from the rest of the human race. I felt my courage confirmed by the certainty of my combinations being just. I then took out my knife, and with a hand firm, from a conscience void of reproach, and which had never been lifted against any one but in the field of victory, I cut the cord. My balloon rose, and I felt myself precipitated with a velocity which was checked by the sudden expansion of my parachute. I saw that all my calculations were just, and my mind remained calm and serene. I endeavoured to moderate my gravitation, and the oscillation which I experienced increased in proportion as I approached the breeze that blows in the middle regions; nearly ten minutes had elapsed and I felt that the more time I took in descending, the safer I should reach the ground. At length I perceived thousands of persons, some on horseback, and others on foot, following me, all of whom encouraged me by their wishes, while they opened their arms to receive me. I came near the earth, and after one bound, I

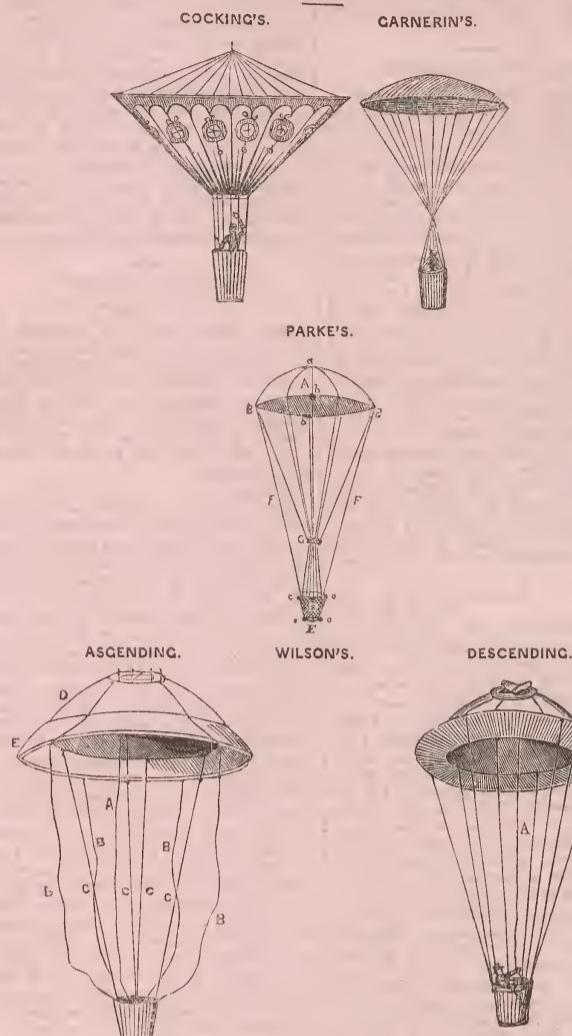
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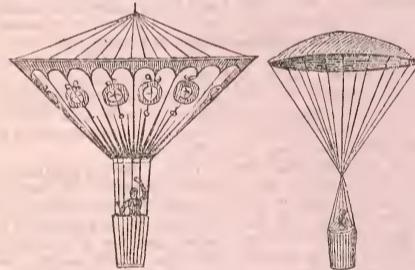
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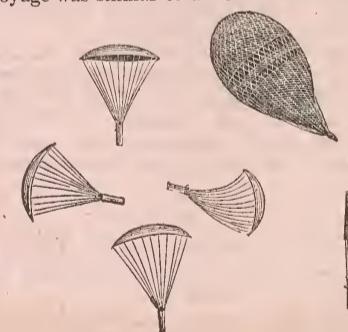
landed, and quitted the parachute, without any shock or accident. The first person that came to me pressed me in his arms; but, without losing any time, I employed myself in detaching the principal circle of the parachute, anxious to save an instrument that so well guaranteed me; but a crowd soon surrounded me, laid hold of me, and carried me in triumph, till an indisposition, the consequence and effect of the oscillation I had experienced, obliged the procession to stop. I was then seized with a painful vomiting, which I usually experience for several hours after a descent in a parachute. The interval of a moment permitted me to get on horseback; a numerous cavalcade approached to keep off the crowd, whose enthusiasm and transports incommoded me not a little. The Duke of York was among the horsemen, and the procession proceeded with great difficulty in the midst of the crowd, who shouted forth their applause, and had before them the tri-coloured flag which I had thrown down, and which was carried by a member of Parliament. Among the prodigious concourse of persons on foot I remarked Lord Stanhope, from whom I received the counsels of a scientific man, and who penetrated through the crowd to shake hands with me. "GARNERIN."

According to M. Garnerin's calculation, he had been to the height of 4,154 French feet. The balloon fell on the next day, near Farnham-mill, three miles beyond Farnham, in Surrey.

Much wonder was excited by the first ascension of a man in a balloon; but surely the descent of a man from an exalted balloon to the earth, without harm, is far more wonderful; it is, however, an experiment as daring as it is terrific.

In October, 1797, M. Garnerin ascended from Paris, for the purpose of descending in a parachute. When at the height of 2000 feet, he disengaged it from the balloon: at first, the motion was slow and steady, it afterwards assumed an oscillatory motion, but he reached the earth without injury.

In 1802, he visited England, and ascended from Ranelagh Gardens, London, accompanied by a naval officer: such was the rapidity of their voyage, that in less than an hour they reached Colchester, having suffered greatly from the boisterous state of the atmosphere. In July and September of the same year, Garnerin repeated his experiments, and on the latter occasion descended in a parachute\*; the result of this voyage was similar to the one mentioned above.



DIFFERENT POSITIONS OF THE PARACHUTE.

\* The Parachute is an apparatus with an expanding top, somewhat similar to a large umbrella, and with a small deep basket attached to it, in which the aéronaut sits. It was suspended to the balloon by ropes, so contrived as to be loosened at the pleasure of the voyager, while sailing in the air. When this was done, the balloon rapidly ascended, and the parachute, on the contrary, dropped downwards, with a frightful rapidity, until the top was forced open by the power of the air. In this form the parachute was blown about in various directions, as shown in the cut, and a zigzag and perilous descent was effected.

OUR present Number is illustrated with engravings of four parachutes. Should any of our readers, therefore, have a desire to visit the regions above, they can have a choice of conveyances to bring them down again safe to *terra firma*.

#### WILSON'S PARACHUTE.

*To the Editor of the PENNY MECHANIC.*  
SIR,—I send you a model of a parachute which is constructed on the principle of Messrs. Garnerin and Cocking, with the addition of a valve which opens outwards, which, by that means, can easily be regulated by the aeronaut. My motive for having a valve is to regulate the oscillation, which, by M. Garnerin's account, was greater at some times than others; and it being well known that Mr. Cocking's parachute could not oscillate is the reason I have adopted the cone. I have made models of the three parachutes and I find that Mr. Cocking's will not sustain very little more than half of M. Garnerin's; but the oscillation of the last gentleman's is very great, while that of the former is scarcely perceptible, but it comes down with a greater velocity: the one of which I have sent you the model will sustain more weight, and is longer in the descent than M. Garnerin's, and the oscillation is not perceptible: the reason why the cone shifts is to facilitate the ascent. If you think it worthy of a place in your useful periodical you would oblige,

Yours respectfully,

M. B. WILSON.

**EXPLANATION.**—*a*, the valve-line; *BB* *b b*, the four cords attached to the rim of the shifting cone; *ccc c*, the four cords attached to the rim of the upper cone; *d*, the upper cone; *e*, the shifting cone.

[We certainly must say we form a very favourable opinion of the invention; the model sent to us is on rather too small a scale to decide of its capabilities, otherwise we should have tried it; but we would advise Mr. Wilson to apply to the proprietors of Vauxhall or the Surrey Zoological Gardens, who would, no doubt, construct one, which would most likely be of benefit to themselves, a source of gratification to the public, and the means of rewarding the ingenuity of the inventor.

We have much pleasure in informing Mr. Wilson and the Public, that we have had an interview with a gentleman who, for some time past, has made it his study to produce a parachute which would be found capable of allowing a safe descent from the greatest altitude. He has ex-

pressed his perfect confidence in the plan proposed by Mr. Wilson, with the addition of one or two minor alterations; and so satisfied is he that a steady, uniform, and safe descent may be effected by its means, that he has requested us to announce his willingness to make the experiment as soon as such a machine can be constructed, and an agreement entered into with the proprietors of a balloon capable of ascending with the parachute and its voyager, the weight of which he estimates will not much exceed 300 pounds, being 150 pounds less than that of the late unfortunate Mr. Cocking. Any communication, addressed to the Editor of this publication, will be promptly responded to by the gentleman here alluded to.]

#### PARKE'S PARACHUTE.

*To the Editor of the PENNY MECHANIC.*

SIR,—I beg to send you herewith enclosed a drawing of the plan I propose for making parachutes. If you think it worthy of a small space in your valuable Magazine, perhaps you will be kind enough to insert it at your first convenience; and by doing so you will much oblige, Sir, your very obedient servant and subscriber,

Islington. CHARLES PARKE.

**EXPLANATION.**—*a* is the top of the parachute, composed of a frame made of a circular hoop of ash, also a piece of hoop one-third the size of the former bent in the shape of a bow *a*, and covered with fine silk. *bbb b* are four zinc clasps fixed to the hoop to fix the lines *ff* and the other two at *b b* to. *ccc c* are four wicker groves made to the basket *d* for the lines *ff* to move free in and keep them in their proper place: there are also four other grooves on the basket *d* for the lines from *b b*, which act in the same manner and are for the same purpose as *ccc c*. *d* a wicker basket, for the person who descends to place himself. *e* is a double wicker groove for the lines *ff* and those from *b b* to work in and placed in contrary directions, which act in the same manner as *ccc c*. *ff* are two safety lines for keeping the top *a* in its required position: for instance, suppose the parachute while descending loops at one side, no matter which, and as there are two lines *ff* and two *b b*, you have only to pull the opposite line, and the top *a* will return to its required position, thus securing a safe descent. *g* is the knot which ties the lines which communicate the top *a* and the basket *d* together, which should be made of strong gut because of its elasticity.



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### M. GARNERIN.

In our Papers of Saturday and yesterday, we inserted a question or two respecting M. GARNERIN, put by a Correspondent, to which we have received the following Answer from that Gentleman. We shall insert it without any comment, as our Readers will be as able as we are to judge from the Letter, whether the questions are satisfactorily answered:

Londres, le 30 Août, 1802, an 10 de la République Française.

GARNERIN, CITOYEN FRANÇAIS, A MONSIEUR L'ÉDITEUR DU TRUE BRITON.

"On vient de me communiquer, Monsieur, les traductions d'un article contenu dans votre feuille du 28, du courant qui est bien fait pour exciter mon indignation. Il me paroît déloyal et inhospitalier, que vous ayiez pu consentir, sans une vérification aussi simple que facile, du rapport de mon âge avec la date de l'événement que vous citez, à publier une information aussi extraordinaire sur le compte d'un étranger dont les actions dans votre patrie, n'ont pu que lui donner du droit à l'estime générale. Je n'entrerai pas dans de plus longue détail & je ne m'baisserez pas au point d'entreprendre de me justifier du Soupon oublie que vous avez eu l'indiscrétion de faire circuler sur mon action et sur mes sentiments moraux. Je vous laisserai le regret d'avoir compromis devant le Public un homme d'honneur qui est venu dans votre patrie avec la protection de son Gouvernement et le marques glorieuse de son estime, et je vous confierai le soin de réparer le mal que vous m'avez fait, bien persuadé que vous êtes trop honnête-homme pour rien négliger à ce égard.

"GARNERIN."

### TRANSLATION.

London, 30th August, 1802, in the 10th

Year of the French Republic.

GARNERIN, FRENCH CITIZEN, TO THE EDITOR OF THE TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

"The translation of an article contained in your Paper of the 28th instant, has been communicated to me, which has greatly excited my indignation. It seems to me inhospitable that without attending to an easy and simple contradiction of it in the circumstance of my age, when compared with the date of the event which you cite, you should have inserted so extraordinary a Paragraph respecting a Foreigner, whose conduct in your Country entitles him to general esteem. I shall not enter into any details, or degrade myself by attempting a justification of my conduct against the outrageous suspicion which you have had the indiscretion to circulate respecting that and my moral sentiments. I leave you to the regret of having traduced a Man of Honour, who is residing in your Country, under the protection of its Government, and with splendid marks of its esteem, and I trust to you to repair the injury you have inflicted, well persuaded that you are too honourable a Man to neglect any thing so that purpose.

"GARNERIN."

NO. 2.

We have received the copy of a letter from Mr. Garnerin to the Editor of a Morning Paper, a translation of which we lay before our readers:

To the EDITOR of the TRUE BRITON.

London, 30th Aug: 10th year of the French Republic.

"I have just had communicated to me, Sir, the translation of an article contained in your paper of the 28th, which is calculated most strongly to excite my indignation. It appears to me highly ungenerous, and contrary to all the laws of hospitality, that you should, without a comparison, as easy as it was simple, of the agreement of my age with the date of the event which you allude to, publish so extraordinary a report respecting a stranger whose conduct while residing in this country has in no respect rendered him unworthy of general esteem. I do not think it at all necessary to enter into any detail on this subject; nor do I judge it requisite to attempt in an elaborate manner to justify myself from the extravagant suspicion which you have had the indiscretion to circulate against my actions and my moral sentiments. I will leave to yourself to feel regret for having endeavoured to prejudice in the minds of the public a man of honour, who has come into the country under the protection of your Government, and who has experienced unequivocal marks of the public esteem, and to you I will entrust the task of repairing the injury you have done me, convinced as I am that you have too high a sense of honour to be negligent of any opportunity of atoning for your error.

GARNERIN."

### MONSIEUR GARNERIN.

Having inserted the letter of our Correspondent VINDEX, respecting this Gentleman, we consider it as our duty to publish his answer, in his own words, without delay. Admiring his adventurous spirit and scientific knowledge, we are happy that he is able to give such a satisfactory answer to a report that was generally prevalent, and that materially affected his character. Much as he must have been mortified by this report, he has no reason to regret that we submitted it to the Public, since we have thereby brought the matter fairly to issue, and have enabled him to vindicate his character from a stain that all his acknowledged enterprise and talents never could have effaced.

AU REDACTEUR DU TRUE BRITON.

MONSIEUR,

UN Ecrivain du TRUE BRITON, de Samedi dernier, se signant VINDEX, a jugé à propos de me faire trois questions, savoir : " Si je suis la même personne qui a signé le Décret de Mort de son malheureux Souverain ? Et qui avec une barbarie sans exemple, voulut porter, de ses propres mains, la tête de la Princesse Lamballe, que l'on venait d'assassiner, pour la faire voir à la Reine de France, qui étoit alors prisonnière dans le Temple ? " La troisième question, qui se trouve en Postscript—" Peut-être il est nécessaire que vous répondiez à une autre question, quoiqu'elle ne soit pas directement relative à votre propre conduite. L'on vous a demandé si vous avez été accompagné dans ce Pays-ci, par l'exécutable vilain qui a effectivement coupé la tête de la malheureuse Princesse Lamballe, et si ce misérable n'est pas ici à votre service ? Cette question n'a pas été répondue."

Ma réponse à ces questions est premièrement, que la mort de Louis XVI. fut votée par la Convention Nationale, que je n'ai jamais été Membre de la Convention, et que je n'ai point signé son Décret de Mort. C'est pourquoi ma réponse à cette première question est un Non formel et direct.

Si cet assassin avait consulté la Liste des Membres de la Convention Nationale, et s'étoit référé aux relations de ces époques, il se seroit assuré qu'il n'a jamais existé de Membre de la Convention de mon nom. Quand Louis XVI. fut mis à mort, j'étois à Bruxelles, attaché à l'Armée de Dumourier.

Ma réponse à la seconde question est, que je n'ai jamais vu la Princesse Lamballe, et que je ne saurois pas conséquemment avoir été accessoire à sa mort, ni à aucune autre des énormités commises à cette époque, ou à aucune autre de la Révolution.

Je réponds à la troisième question, en déclarant que je n'ai pas été accompagné dans ce Pays-ci, par l'exécutable vilain qui a coupé la tête de la malheureuse Princesse Lamballe, et qu'à ma connaissance tel n'existe jamais à mon service. J'ignore parfairement quel est l'auteur d'un crime qui ne peut avoir été commis que par le plus grand monstre qui puisse exister. Ainsi, ma réponse à cette troisième question est aussi positive et aussi négative que celles que j'ai faites aux deux premières.

Comme on a fait allusion à la personne qui est venue en Angleterre avec moi, je crois devoir ajouter que son nom est François Soulés, dont je ne fis choix que parce qu'il avait demeuré en Angleterre avant la Révolution, et en regard à un nombre de traductions qu'il avoit faites, notamment M. Arthur Young, à qui, j'ai entendu dire, qu'il étoit connu, et qui l'accueillit poliment à son arrivée en Angleterre.

Ne m'étant promptement aperçu que ses meurs et ses talents ne justifient pas l'opinion que j'en avais conçue, je le renvoyai promptement en France, il n'a pas entouré été deux mois à mon service et je ne l'ai jamais employé que comme mon interprète.

Je réponds ainsi aux accusations préférées contre moi, par la méthode à laquelle je suis obligé de me conformer par respect pour le Public d'Angleterre.

Quand au lâche reptile qui sous un nom emprunté, a osé m'attaquer, je ne saurois m'exprimer que par le plus profond mépris, et je desirais seulement, qu'il me mit à même de lui reprendre d'une maine plus analogue, à ce que je ressente et à ce qu'il mérite. En vertu je ne me sens pas infinitement disposé, à respecter davantage, l'Editeur du TRUE BRITON, qui a souffert que son Papier circula des accusations qu'il avoit pu lui même relever en examinant, les feuilles du Moniteur, de 1792, et 1793. Ainsi que tous les autres ouvrages périodiques de cette époque.

GARNERIN.

Londres, le 26 Sept. 1802.

(A Translation To-morrow.)

GARNERIN—HIS PARACHUTE—AND  
The DAILY ADVERTISER and ORACLE.

TO THE PUBLIC. Oct. 1802

"I think the reflections I have just made are important to the science of Parachutes, and I consider my last experiment as the most useful of any I have made, and as the one which will render the art more perfect, though it was not certainly the most agreeable one in which I have been engaged.

"All that is written upon a new science deserves to be refuted when it proceeds upon false calculations, or inaccurate data. It is on this account that I am compelled, not from a desire to criticise, nor from a spirit of malignity, to complain of the inaccuracy of the reasoning published in THE ORACLE of the 22d. The dimensions which the writer gives to my Parachute are not correct—nobody knows them but myself, and they cannot be produced by fraud and underhand means. I have my reasons for not communicating them, and no one will think it improper that I reserve to myself, for some time, the exclusive possession of my property. This reasoning, however, is from a skilful hand. THE ORACLE has sometimes reasoned on my ascensions in the most silly and laughable manner; every one knows that it has made the verifying of the elevations, which I ascertain from the fall of the mercury in the barometer, to proceed from the skilful maker in Piccadilly, who has surely been a little mortified at THE ORACLE's having made him play the part of a fool. That gentleman, however, has been revenged, by not discovering to the writer, that the difference which always exists between his calculations and mine, proceeds only from the difference between the English and the French foot.

"The Editor of THE ORACLE will not be offended at the justness of my reflections; he must know that, in morals, as in physics, the reaction is always equal to the action; he might have expected that his first attacks, the continuance of his hostilities, and the innocent anecdote he has published upon my father's profession, my education, and the office I filled under the Revolutionary Government of the execrable ROBESPIERRE, would be answered on the day on which the public should pronounce their opinion. THE ORACLE must feel that the interview before a Magistrate, whom I respect, cannot deprive me of a legal justification, and does not destroy the menaces sent to me in writing by one of his writers, who was disappointed at my refusal to participate in any manner in the publication in England of the translation he had made of the account of my imprisonment among the enemies of France, after the action of Marchienne, notwithstanding the advantageous offer he made me, preferring, as I do, the sacrifice of my interests to the reviving of resentments, which ought to be forgotten in the general Peace which has been so happily restored, and which no honest man ought to attempt to disturb, particularly from interested motives. The person, to whom I allude ought to have felt that it was bad policy to publish in THE ORACLE a scandalous anecdote, after having furnished me with a written proof of his baseness. If the mania of publishing something relative to me had seized him, he ought to have done it with that delicacy and candour from which a writer who respects himself ought never to depart.

"I certainly was employed by the revolutionary government of the execrable ROBESPIERRE; but BONAPARTE, MOREAU, JOURDAN, almost all the Members of the National Institute, every man in France who had talents or energy, were employed also; and it was not their fault if, whilst they were absent from the interior, employed in dissolving the coalition against France, monsters filled the bosom of their country with infamy, whilst their united efforts were surrounding her with a circle of glory.

"Arts and the Belles Lettres are of the same family, and it is afflictive to see them destroying each other. The contest ought not to be prolonged. I have been unjustly defamed and attacked; I have made my legal defence, and things should return to the natural equilibrium, with more reason on my side; because THE TRUE BRITON and THE ORACLE have been the dupes of two firebrands. Yet I have a right to require that the perfidious veil which conceals these anonymous writers should be torn aside. Nothing ought to shield them from public indignation and contempt, and to demand the Editors of these two Papers cannot, without compromising themselves, refuse to accede for their own justification. I summon THE ORACLE to declare, whether the anecdote respecting my birth, my father's profession, &c. which he has copied into several pamphlets, was not communicated to FRANCOIS SOULÉS, as soon as I had desired him to return to France, loaded with benefits, notwithstanding his bad behaviour. This wretch deserves nothing but contempt, and is a fit object of the attention of the police of both countries. I sum up THE TRUE BRITON to conjecture, whether a certain man who was a Noble before the revolution, and has been a great Speculator since, be not the author of the indecent questions put to me upon the subject of LOUIS the XVI. and Madame de LAMBALLE's death? This man did I save from being arrested in 1793; an event that would infallibly have brought him to the scaffold. It is this indeed that throws an air of improbability upon the indication that accuser of an action which, adding ingratitude to baseness, would load him with an infamy equal to that which belongs to the execrable assassin of the PRINCESS LAMBALLE, who possessed the same cruelty of heart, but less wickedness, than the author of the questions in THE TRUE BRITON." GARNERIN."

### MONSIEUR GARNERIN.

As we find the following translation of Monsieur GARNERIN's Letter was inserted in most of the Public Prints of yesterday, we shall spare ourselves the trouble of translating it again.—M. GARNERIN seems by no means aware of the extensive prevalence of the report which has obliged him to come thus forward, and it is, indeed, his own fault that matters have been carried so far: if he was conscious of innocence, he ought at first to have positively denied the charge which was insinuated against him, and which has been asserted in many quarters. Instead, therefore, of being angry with VINDEX, he ought rather to thank our Correspondent for having given him an opportunity of clearing his character from an odium of the most atrocious description.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,  
A Writer in THE TRUE BRITON of Saturday last, who signs himself VINDEX, has thought proper to put to me three questions:—

1st. "Whether I am the same person who signed his unfortunate Sovereign's death warrant?"

2d. "And, with unparalleled barbarity, wanted to put to me with his own hands, the head of the murdered Princess de Lamballe, to shew to the Queen of France, then a prisoner in the Temple?"

3d. Which is inclosed in the postscript of the letter—"Perhaps it may be necessary for you to answer another question, though it does not immediately relate to your own conduct. You have been asked, whether you was not accompanied to his country by the execrable wretch who actually cut off the head of the unfortunate Princess de Lamballe; and whether this wretch is not here in your service?"

My reply to these questions—First, That the death of Louis the 16th was voted by the National Convention; that I was not, nor ever was, a Member of the Convention, and that of course I did not, nor could, sign his death warrant. My answer, therefore, to this first question, is a direct and formal negative.

Had this assassin referred to the list of Members of the Convention, and to the proceedings of that period, he might have ascertained that there never was a Member of the Convention of my name. When Louis the 16th was put to death, I was at Brussels, serving in the army under Dumourier.

To the second question, my answer is—That I never saw the Princess de Lamballe in my life, and of course could not have been a party to her murder.—I add, I never was concerned in any of the enormities of that or any other period of the Revolution.

To the third question, I answer by declaring—That I was not accompanied to this country by the execrable wretch who cut off the head of the unfortunate Princess, nor is, or ever was (to my knowledge), such a person in my service. I am totally ignorant of a crime which could only have been committed by the most savage of mankind. To this third question, therefore, my reply is as positive a negative as I have given to the two first questions.

As the person who accompanied me to this country has been alluded to, I think it necessary to add, that his name is François Soulés, whom I selected solely on account of his having lived many years in England, before the Revolution, and of his having translated, from the English, several works, among others Mr. Arthur Young's, whom he knows, and by whom he was kindly received when he arrived in this country. Finding, however, soon after, he did not justify the opinion I had formed of his morals and his talents, I sent him back to France. The whole time he remained with me was but two months, and he never acted in any other capacity than as my interpreter.

I have thus repelled the charges brought against me, which, indeed, my deference and respect for the English Public have principally induced me to notice in this way.

For the coward who, скulking behind an assumed name, has dared to attack me, I can only express my perfect contempt. I wish he would give me an opportunity of treating him in a way more consonant to my own desires and to his own dictates. Nor indeed am I disposed to feel sentiments of greater respect for the Editor of THE TRUE BRITON himself, who has suffered his Paper to be the means of giving currency to charges, part of which he might himself, by a reference to the Moniteur of 1792, and 1793, or any other periodical work, have proved to be totally unfounded.

I remain, Sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
GARNERIN.

Sept. 26, 1802.

Mr. GARNERIN'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING POST, RESPECTING THE ATTACKS MADE UPON HIM, &c. SHALL POSITIVELY APPEAR IN MONDAY'S PAPER; AND WE THINK IT PROPER THUS TO ANNOUNCE IT, THAT THE PUBLIC MAY READ IT WITH ATTENTION.  
Sect. 2, 1802  
The request of Common Sense shall be complied with.  
The account of the Richmond Swindler on Monday.

To the EDITOR of the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

Having been most grossly abused and attacked by the *Oracle*, although you have been the first to arraign me at the bar of the Public, I still flatter myself that you will readily insert in your Paper the Reply I beg leave to inclose.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ANDRE JAQUES GARNERIN.

OCT. 22, 1802.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,

NOTHING but my absence from London could have prevented me from replying sooner to the series of unprovoked attacks which have been made upon my character, by *The Oracle*. That part of them which relates merely to "the useless art I profess" (an art, however, not found so useless at the battle of Fleurus), I will pass over. It is comparatively of insignificant consideration, when compared with those charges which would depict me to the universe as a monster, unfit for the society of human beings. My reply to them, to be satisfactory need not be long. What I shall assert, I shall be able to prove; and against me, at least, shall not be urged the accusation of making up, by virulence and invective, for the deficiency of argument and truth.

The Editor of *The Oracle* himself seems, I know not why, to have placed himself at the head of the battle. Against him, personally, I never brought any charge; I considered him merely as a dupe.—But I complained of the conduct of a person describing himself as a Writer in *The Oracle*, and introducing himself to me, with a request I would communicate, exclusively, to that Paper (which he asserted to be the leading one of England, and particularly celebrated for its scientific, as well as political, knowledge), my accounts, then not deemed to be so useless, of my aeronautic experiments, during my residence in England. Such a request, in favour of *The Oracle*, gave me every reason to believe that the person was really a Writer in it.—And what reason have I now for thinking that he gave a false account of himself? The Editor of *The Oracle*, in his Paper of the 5th of October, denies that that person has any connection whatsoever with his paper; but he, in the very same sentence, announces—"that the writer alledged to have promised him a vindication of his conduct," which promise was fulfilled on the subsequent day; with the positive declaration from this person, so totally unconnected with *The Oracle*, "that he gave the particulars of my life, which appeared in *The Daily Advertiser and Oracle*, and that he was answerable for his assertions." I leave the Editor and this person to settle their contradictions between themselves.

I proceed now, Sir, to the attacks of that person, Mr. John Neville. Soon after my arrival in England, a combination was made between John Neville and my interpreter, Francis Souley. Neville was introduced to me by the latter, with whom he said he had been acquainted twenty years. Neville told me he had translated the memorial of my captivity in Austria, which I had drawn up between five and six years ago, at the express order of my Government. He then made me an offer of half the profits of the publication, if I would furnish him with my Portrait, the drawings of my Balloons and Parachute, and an explanation of the means I employed in filling my Balloons, &c. To this offer, at the second interview with him, I gave a decided refusal, alledging as a reason for it, "That as Peace had now happily been re-established between France, England, and Austria, such a publication would be unseasonable, and could only tend to revive sentiments that were now fortunately appeased."—After that interview, I saw Mr. Neville no more. But on the 22d of June, I received the following Letter from him:

SIR—Not having heard from you, although you promised you would have written to me, either the following day or the day after that I had the honour of seeing you at your house, I see myself compelled to trouble you in order to inform you that since you decline acceding to my demands, I will publish your Memoirs, with such Notes as I think proper to add, to replace what I desired you to send me. The pamphlet will sell the better for it, and to yourself alone you will be indebted for the consequences attached to the publication of your Memorial. Nothing shall be made public but what truth will loudly proclaim.

As I am but seldom at home, and as the distance to your house besides is great, every personal explanation (*explanation de vive voix*) becomes henceforth impossible; and for that very reason, I once more subjoin my address,

(Signed) JOHN NEVILLE.

Monday Evening, 47, Little Britain.

I leave it to the reader to decide, whether the above letter does or does not contain any menace. So convinced, however, was I that it was a menace, and a deep-laid scheme, that I took the liberty of sending a copy of it to the French Minister here on the 24th, and had the honour of receiving on the 25th of June, his approbation of the motives which had induced me to resist both the offer and the threatened consequences of my refusal.

I now expected Mr. Neville's publication, and should not, but for his Letter in *The Oracle*, of the 6th of October, have been able to account for his delay. After I had refused to partake in the publication, Mr. Neville is seized with a sudden fit of delicacy towards Austria; and though he had, at his first interview with me, assured me he had already translated the work, he says, in his letter to *The Oracle*, "that he resolved, before he translated a single line of my Memoirs, to address the Imperial Ambassador, and ask if he had any objection to the production, which he transmitted him, being published in English." The regard I have for the Imperial Ambassador prevents me from making a single comment upon his Letter. His Excellency, however, ought to know, for he cannot have forgotten the treatment of the French Ambassadors, and of the Representatives of the People, that the complaints of the French Prisoners, of the manner in which they were treated in the Austrian Dominions, were but too well founded.

With respect to my behaviour to my Interpreter, François Souley, I answer, that the charge brought by John Neville, of seducing him from Paris, and abandoning him in London, is infamous and false.—

To the EDITOR of THE TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

I trouble you with some observations on GARNERIN'S unique composition, (as it appeared in several Papers of Saturday last), having solicited and obtained your permission to that effect.

I begin with remarking, that, as a Translation, *tant bonne que mauvaise*, of my Letters to GARNERIN has appeared, I conceive the Question with respect to me, is completely put to rest; but I have sincerely to regret, that I should, in one of them, have expressed myself *most unbecomingly* relative to The TRUE BRITON, concerning which I had been led by misinformation into a *gross error*. I solemnly declare, that I was fully convinced, the Property and Editorship of the Paper alluded to, had passed into the hands of a person of *most equivocal Politics*\*, as soon as Peace was concluded; nor was I undeviated, until about three weeks back, I was told the contrary was the case. I here emphatically abjure my errors!

The *Natural Philosopher*, GARNERIN, tells the world, with a mixture of effrontery and folly, that his (*atrocious*) Memoirs do not contain any thing disrespectful to the *ILLUSTRIOS CHIEF* of the gallant Army of this Country—it would be idle, it would be insolent in me, a very humble individual, to volunteer the defence of the ROYAL GENERAL, to whom no charge can possibly attach—but as the little *Abbé* has deposited in the Pantheon the effusions of his licentious brain, I shall only say to the Public, "*tolle, lege.*"

With respect, Mr. Editor, to the reception which GARNERIN says I experienced at Windsor from one of the late Deputy-Commissionaries for Prisoners of War on the Continent—I mean Mr. WALKER—I shall only observe, that I was received by that Gentleman, at his house, with the same convincing proofs of cordiality as I, on former occasions, greeted him in my military quarters, as a friend, wedded to the cause of liberty and of reason. But, to prove the truth of my assertion, I shall present a copy of his letter to me some days ago:—

"DEAR SIR, Windsor, October 23, 1802.  
" This day I have seen M. GARNERIN's Defence in the Morning Post. Proceeding on the principle I have uniformly observed, I have only to remark, that I certainly gave him reason to state that you did not meet with that kind attention I had ever received from you.

"Mr. John Neville. ALEX. WALKER."

As to the DESERTION of GARNERIN, or the BREAKING OF HIS PAROLE, when a Prisoner at Oudenarde, I beg leave to refer M. GARNERIN, or the Reader, to Mr. WALKER's own voluntary Letter, dated Windsor, October 6th, addressed to Mr. STUART, and inserted in *The Daily Advertiser and Oracle* of the 9th October instant, where the notorious fact is affirmed with all the vigour of truth, and all the sensibility of a Gentleman who knows well how to appreciate a Soldier's honour. If, however, it be necessary, for the sake of public information, I shall request of Mr. STUART to republish Mr. WALKER's letter.

The shameful desertion, or breaking of parole, by GARNERIN, awoke the indignation of the French Officers at Oudenarde; and it was from them that the Deputy-Commissionary, Mr. WALKER, learned how GARNERIN could be apprehended and brought back?

Now, Mr. Editor, do you think that Gentleman would have received le Sieur GARNERIN with distinction, had he known at the time that he accuses him in his atrocious Memoirs (as the Ambassador of an Imperial Court styles them) of having refused to return him his great coat and other effects? You will, perhaps, answer negatively. Now, I say, he would still be polite to him—because it is known that a French Officer, whether in the military or the department, does not stand in absolute need of a great coat of a *Sans Culottes*, nor of any other of his effects; and because an attempt to repel a charge so very ridiculous, would be giving weight and importance to absurdity.

I now, Mr. Editor, beg leave to submit to your consideration ANOTHER VERY IMPORTANT FACT, which may serve to illustrate the character and conduct of M. GARNERIN and his Brother JEAN BAPTISTE GARNERIN. In the *Morning Chronicle* and *Morning Post*, &c. of the 24th September last, M. GARNERIN endeavours to vindicate himself and his family from the aspersions advanced in some of the Morning Prints, insinuating, that both he and his Brother had enacted parts—certainly not very honourable to men of humane feelings—during the period of the French Revolution. His own WORDS ARE—

"A Correspondent, whose veracity they (the Editors) ought to have suspected, has asked me, whether I did not play an infamous part in the French Revolution? Sir, (Mr. Editor) we are in France but two—MY BROTHER AND MYSELF—the name of GARNERIN—and we have played no other part than that which honour may avow in all Countries, and at all times!"

In his last Letter, inserted in the *Morning Post*, *Morning Chronicle*, *True Briton*, and *Courier*, of Saturday, the 23d instant, in which he attacks me with much virulence and asperity, M. GARNERIN, to corroborate, as he thinks, his former assertions, respecting the purity and honour of HIMSELF and BROTHER, makes the FOLLOWING REMARKABLE DECLARATION:—

"I conclude with two lines relative to JEAN BAPTISTE GARNERIN, whom I am proud to call MY BROTHER; He is a respectable father of six children, was NEVER a Member of a Revolutionary Committee, and in the same manner can I affirm, that HE NEVER was a Witness against the QUEEN OF FRANCE, whose trial may be referred to every Bookseller's shop in Europe!"

No Declaration can be stronger, or more unequivocal! In this M. GARNERIN shews—although inadvertently—some regard for TRUTH, as he challenges, in a very bold and unreserved manner, a careful perusal of that remarkable document, the mock TRIAL of the QUEEN OF FRANCE! I am much obliged to him for pointing out to me the mode of his own conviction; and the following is the result of my search respecting ONE of THE TWO—consequently M. GARNERIN'S Brother:

EXTRACT FROM THE AUTHENTIC PARIS COPY OF THE TRIAL OF THE QUEEN OF FRANCE,

"To be referred to in every Bookseller's Shop in Europe!"

"JEAN BAPTISTE GARNERIN, ci-devant Secretary to the Commission of Twenty-four, depos'd, that having been

\* We think it necessary to inform our Readers, that the Gentleman to whom we suppose Mr. NEVILLE alludes, is no longer connected with The TRUE BRITON.

"to number and arrange the Papers found at the house of SEPTEUIL (the King's Valet-de-Chambre and Treasurer to the Civil List), he saw among them an order for about Eighty Thousand Livres, signed 'ANTOINETTE,' in favour of the ci-devant POLIGNAC, with a Note respecting LAZAILLE; and another Paper which attested, that the accused had sold her Diamonds, to transmit the produce of them to the French Emigrants. The Deponent observed, that he then delivered all the said Papers into the hands of VLAZALE, Member of the Commission charged to draw up the Act of Accusation against LOUIS CAPET; but that the Deponent (GARNERIN) learned, not without astonishment, that VALAZE, in the Report which he made to the National Convention, did not speak of the Papers signed 'MARIE ANTOINETTE.'

(Here the execrable President of the *infernal*, self-created Court, put the following Question to the ROYAL VICTIM, to the illustrious offspring of so many CÆSARS.)

PRESIDENT to the QUEEN—"Have you any observations to make on the Deposition of the Witness GARNERIN?"

QUEEN—"I persist in saying that I never gave any such orders."

PRESIDENT—"Do you know the above-named LAZAILLE?"

QUEEN—"Yes, I know him to be an Officer of the Marine, and have seen him at Court, at Versailles, as I saw others."

The Witness, TISSET, (another perfused Evidence) requested the President to call upon Citizen GARNERIN, to declare, if he also did not recollect to have seen, among the Papers found at the house of SEPTEUIL, Invoices of Purchases in Sugar, Coffee, Corn, &c. &c. amounting to the Sum of Two Million, Fifteen Thousand Livres of which had been already paid; and if he did not also know that these Invoices, some days after, were not to be found.

GARNERIN—"I have no knowledge of that fact; I, however, know, that throughout all France there were people charged with commissions to buy up large quantities of provisions by forestalling, in order to raise the price of them, that by these means the people might be disgusted with the Revolution and Liberty, and induced to call again for their chains."

PRESIDENT to the QUEEN—"Do you know anything of immense purchases, by forestalling the most necessary articles of provision, made by order of the Court to starve the people, and to force them to demand back the ancient order of things, so favourable to Tyrants and their infamous agents, who have kept them under the yoke for four centuries?"

QUEEN—"I do not know that there were any purchases by forestalling."

Thus ends the precious evidence of GARNERIN; and by referring to the summing up of the iniquitous whole, it will clearly appear, that the respectable Father of six Children, whom our flying Philosopher, the Ex-Commissioner of the gentle ROBESPIERRE, is proud to call his brother, was one of the murderers of the good, the unfortunate, and the beautiful QUEEN OF FRANCE, as very particular stress was laid on his execrable testimony!

"Te lapis et montes, innataque rupibus altis  
"Robora, te sexas progeniture Feræ!"

I now, Mr. Editor, display M. GARNERIN in his proper colours; and if I have, as an eminent Writer once said, made for him "a bed of thorns," he has himself only to blame for his irksome situation.—M. GARNERIN has the modesty to affirm, that I have made a dupe of the Editor of *The Oracle*. I have that Gentleman's authority for saying, that to-morrow he will descend to bestow a few Particular Observations on the wonderful Aeronaut's last Letter. Let M. GARNERIN seriously weigh the TRUTHS now advanced, and compare them with the falsehood, the folly, and absurdity of those who have waptionally involved him in the disagreeable discussion, and, in allusion to a celebrated Dramatic Author, I may now ask him—Who's the Dupe?

October 26.

JOHN NEVILLE.

To the EDITOR of the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

Being in the very moment of leaving this Country, I have neither time nor inclination to continue the contest I have been led into by *The Oracle* and JOHN NEVILLE. The Public must be heartily tired of it; but, in order to vindicate myself from the imputation of having broke my parole, I most earnestly beg the insertion of the letter I have just received from Mr. WALKER, Deputy Commissary for the French Prisoners at Oudenarde.

Happy have this opportunity of paying you in person the tribute of my gratitude, for your kind attention and deportment towards me, I beg leave to assure you, that the reception I have met with, from the most distinguished characters in this country, and from the nation in general, has raised a monument to my pride, which never can be erased from my grateful remembrance.

OCT. 28, 1802.

GARNERIN.

London, the 28th of October, 1802.

Two o'Clock, P.M.

I have seen, with much surprise and concern, the conclusions which are drawn in *The Oracle*, of this morning, from my letter of inquiry to Mr. Stuart, of the 6th of October last, respecting your desertion, no enumeration having ever been made by me, that you ever was on parole, or had ever broken it.

This attestation I owe to you, I owe it to myself, and I owe it to the respectable characters who have shewn you attention and civility in this country.

You have very amply explained the manner in which I have been led into the business, and how I was made to believe that the Memoirs in question were published in this country since your arrival—the negative of which you have so fully proved by the letter of M. ORIO, of the 25th of July last.

As the style of my Letter seems to have been tortured to answer private ends, it becomes incumbent on my duty, and a justice I owe both you and myself, to express my entire disapprobation of any of the Publications, which I think highly improper, inasmuch as they bear entirely on the circumstances of the war, which ought to have been done away by the Signature of Peace. As I understand you are, in a few hours, to set out for France, I wish you a safe and pleasant journey. And am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,  
ALÉX. WALKER.

To Mons. Garnerin.

Equally false is it, that I have made, in my Memoirs, any attack upon the Duke of York—so far from it, that I have particularly alluded to several fine traits of humanity in the character and conduct of His Royal Highness.

Upon the Work itself I have to remind my Readers of the time and circumstances under which it was written. It was written amidst the misery and horror of an Austrian captivity, under the impression of the deepest affection for my country, and with the knowledge of the War having been characterized by some of the Allies as *bellum inter-occinum*.—Yet, I desire it may not be supposed that I feel any contrition for the work in question, which I have deposited at the Pantheon for the perusal of every person. It will afford the most victorious refutation of the attacks of John Neville and Co.

Before I conclude, Sir, I wish to say a few words on a Letter from Mr. Walker, which, much against his wish, appeared in *The Oracle*, 9th October, and upon that part of John Neville's Letter which relates to Jean Baptiste Garnerin, my brother.

As soon as I was informed of Mr. Walker's Letter, I waited upon him, and was received by that Gentleman with peculiar attention and politeness.—Mr. Walker assured me that he was led to believe, by *The Oracle*, that the Memoirs in question were written or published by me since I had been in England, and that they contained reflections upon his conduct.—Mr. Walker, of course, felt as a man of honour, conscious of having performed his duty at all times, and wrote the Letter to *The Oracle*, under the impression, that what had been told him was true.—Having undeceived him, and convinced him that the Memoirs were published six years back, and that no attack was made upon him, or the English Nation, he expressed himself displeased and hurt at the Letter—having been published, and we parted with mutual compliments and civilities; a reception very different from that which John Neville was favoured with when he went to Windsor, for the Documents which were so eagerly expected.

I conclude with two lines relative to Jean Baptiste Garnerin, whom I am proud to call my brother: he is a respectable father of six children, was never a Member of a Revolutionary Committee, and in the same manner can I affirm, that he never was a Witness against the Queen of France, whose trial may be referred to in every Bookseller's shop in Europe.

Sir, I have done—I have to entreat your pardon for having occupied so large a portion of your Paper. But you will acknowledge, that to have said nothing would have been an insult to the British Public, and to have said less would have been construed as indifference to my own character. I came to your Country to exhibit some aeronautic experiments. All that I have promised I have performed, and the manner in which the British Public have received me, has left the deepest and most grateful impression upon my mind. With that impression, and with many thanks to you for the opportunity you have afforded me of justifying my character, in a very few days, and after some philosophical experiments that I propose still to offer to the Public, I am about to return to France,

And remain, Sir,  
Your most obliged and obedient humble Servant,  
ANDRE JACQUES GARNERIN.

Note.—The following is a copy of a Bill which was stuck up at the window of *The Oracle* Office in Fleet-street, and which I have no doubt my Readers will consider as no slight attempt to rouse the indignation of the Populace against me:

"In a few days will be published at this Office,  
"THE ATROCIOUS LIFE OF MR. GARNERIN,  
"As written by himself; proving him an object un-  
"worthy of the protection he has received from the British  
"Nation."

P. S.—In order to ascertain the degree of credit which is due to the writings and to the eant of John Neville, I beg leave to subjoin an extract of the last Letter I received from him, dated No. 47, Little Britain, Sept. 27.

"Sir—Not having a sufficient knowledge of me, you might believe that the *invectives* which appear against you in *The True Briton* came from my pen. I have therefore the honour of addressing you today for the express purpose of doing away the error.

"When I undertook the translation of your *Memoirs*, I asked you some particulars relative to your Balloons, &c. But as soon as I perceived you did not chuse to acquiesce to my demand, I felt induced to inform you, that I would add my notes, which would contradict many of your assertions! &c. and this should have been done, if I had had time to translate your *Memorials*; but I would have been cautious not to calumniate you, or to injure you in the opinion of the Public. Besides I have nothing to say against you; you have served one cause; I fought for the other. We both have done our duty.

"I dismiss the subject by assuring you, that should I be inclined to degrade myself by calumniating you, yet I never would have circulated my *diatribes* through *The True Briton*. I despise the Paper and the Editor; I do therefore write to you for my personal satisfaction, and to assure you, &c.

(Signed) "JOHN NEVILLE."

N. B. We the more readily insert M. GARNERIN's Defence, as we were the first to state a suspicion which generally prevailed, and was as generally mentioned, that he was personally concerned in some of the most atrocious scenes of the Revolution.—The charge, we thought, was not repelled at first with that ingenuousness and precision which are the companions of innocence, but we can now have little hesitation in saying, that we think M. GARNERIN has fully done away the suspicion which rested upon him in that particular. What cause for enmity Mr. NEVILLE can have against *The True Briton*, we cannot conjecture, unless it be the recollection that from it he formerly derived some pecuniary advantages, and received solid proofs of kindness and liberality in the hour of distress.

M. GARNERIN.

It was not our intention to have again troubled the Public with any thing more respecting this man (who made more noise while he was in this Country than he ought to have done), and more especially as he has now left it; but we have received a Letter in vindication of himself, from FRANCOIS SOULES, who was severely aspersed by GARNERIN, in his exculpatory Narratives, and we feel we should act with some degree of injustice if we were to suppress it; we therefore, without further preface, submit it to the Public.

To the EDITOR of THE TRUE BRITON.

SIR,  
I was astonished at seeing in our Papers a translation from the English ones, in which I was indirectly attacked by GARNERIN. Such an attack cannot, in France, hurt my character, where I am universally known as an honest man, and a man of honour, and GARNERIN as a —— and a ——; but I have a reputation to preserve with the English Nation, which has on several occasions given me proofs of its justice, impartiality, and generosity. As to the accusations laid against me concerning the unfortunate Princess LAMBALE, they are so absurd, so contrary to my principles and my constant conduct during the Revolution, that I will not even take the trouble to answer them:—A man who had during ten years, learnt in England what true Liberty was, who had published in 1792—Lasciousness is nothing else but despotism under another form. The despot who sends an individual to the Bastille is less cruel than the LICENTIOUS who hangs a fellow creature to a lantern; and the LICENTIOUS who destroys by fire the properties of his neighbours, is as abominable as the tyrant who despises them by an arbitrary order\*; could not be guilty of any lawless deed, therefore I will only endeavour to exculpate myself for having had any connection with a man so despicable as Garnerin.

This man was quite unknown to me till the moment he ascended in a Balloon. During the time of the greatest Terror, all my friends had been guillotined or were dispersed, and I was closely confined till the death of Robespierre, in a prison, where we were not allowed the reading of the Papers: I consequently could not hear of Garnerin's exploits, who at that time was very active in the service of the Committee of Public Safety, as I will explain afterwards, part of which exploit I was apprised of in England, and part since my return to France.

When Peace was made between the two Nations, I took a Passport to go to England. I had two objects in view, 1st, to purchase books and establish a correspondence; 2dly, to visit my old friends, and see again a country I am fond of. Garnerin was apprised of it, and offered to defray the expences of the voyage, if I would assist him in the Country: he even intimated that he would make me a handsome present, in case he should meet with success. As I had no bad opinion of him, and believed him a man of honour and science, I readily acquiesced. Judging of other men myself, I made no written agreement, and entirely trusted to his honour. But when we were in England, and I had done most of his business, I perceived his real character, and my friends told me I disgraced myself by associating with such a man. I therefore took the first opportunity of parting with him, and went to live in another house, where I remained a month longer, till I had finished my business, without any regard for the future reward the celebrated aeronaut had promised. When Garnerin then, says he dismissed me, and sent me back to France, he tells a lie, since it was I who dismissed him, or who left him when I was dissatisfied with him.

I would never have spoken of Garnerin, or have had the least thought about him, had not he cowardly attacked me. I was at three hundred miles from London, and three months after my departure from that Metropolis.

At such an unprecedented and unprovoked attack, my friends felt indignant, and brought me a number of anecdotes concerning him, which your correspondents will be surprised at.

Garnier in the time of Terror wore a red cap, and was Member of the Revolutionary Committee of the Section of Bon Conseil; in that capacity he was so active, that he recommended himself to the infamous Committee of Public Safety, and was appointed one of its agents, which at that time was equivalent to a spy. In that capacity he was sent with unlimited powers to watch and arrest the Aristocrats, as it was specified in his commission. He went to the country-seat of M. de Folville, called Manancourt, near Perrone, in order to arrest him. M. de Folville made his escape; but Garnier, Bonomme, and Royer, arrested the whole family, the steward, and the private tutor of his children, and sent them to the prisons of Perrone. Garnerin took afterwards two horses from the stables of M. Debiache, and went to Marchienne, where he was taken prisoner with the garrison. Those facts you may depend upon as authentic, I have them from the first authority, and I sign them.

FRANCOIS SOULES.

P. S. Some people imagine, that Garnerin has been an officer in the French army, because he continually says, "I was at that time with the armies;" this is a mistake, he never was in the army, he was with the army as an Agent of the Committee of Public Safety.

Paris, Rue Projeteé, No. 798,  
October 31, 1802.

\* De L'homme, de Sociétés, et des Gouvernemens, p. 66.

Whether GARNERIN'S trip to this Country was a productive one or not, we do not know; but we believe he had no reason to complain of Sir FRANCIS BURDETT'S want of generosity. The Hon. Baronet's bounty was meant, no doubt, as an encouragement to Science, and not as a reward for, any political Principles, which M. GARNERIN may be supposed to entertain.

MR. GARNERIN. Aug. 11. 1802.

Mr. Garnerin having been again assailed with torrents of abuse in *The Oracle* of the 30th ult., and malignant insinuations having been made relative to his escape from the prisons of Oudenarde, in the year 1793; an escape which *The Oracle* is pleased to represent as a *breach of parole*; In order to ascertain the degree of credit which should be attached to the contexture of charges, to phraseology, at tortured expressions, in Mr. Garnerin's absence, his friends felt themselves induced to apply to Mr. Walker, now Deputy Barrack-master at Windsor. As, at the period alluded to, the care and charge of the French prisoners of war devolved on this last Gentleman, he was requested (in compliance to the hint in *The Oracle*) to recite "to his official papers." This having been done, Mr. Walker felt himself bound in duty and honour to deposit the following, unequivocal *Certificate* at the War-office: and, in vindication of poor Garnerin, gave his friends a faithful copy of the *Certificate* in his own hand-writing, as follows, which, for the conviction of those whom misrepresentation and malignity might have prepossessed, is left in original at the office of *The Morning Post*:

"I hereby certify that André Jacques Garnerin, at the time of his descent from Oudenarde, in December 1793, was not on his parole of honour. And further, that the character or title of the said André Jacques Garnerin, as certified to me on the 17th of November 1793, was that of *Chef de Division des Chars des Armées Françaises*.

(Signed) "ALEX. WALKER,  
Late Deputy Commissary of Prisoners of  
War on the Continent."

A new piece of tin-work, in imitation of GARNERIN'S Parachute, nearly large enough to cover the dome of the Pantheon, is to be placed there on Monday night, having near four thousand lamps: this will have a grand effect; it is to be lighted by means of a scaffolding; the house has had several great improvements since last season, and will be an overflowing one, on Monday evening. The supper we are sure will be a good one! Feb. 12. 1803

Petersburgh, Aug. 5. On Saturday the 30th ult. M. Garnerin ascended about nine o'clock from the Garden of the Cadets, in the presence of the Imperial Family, and descended about half an hour after, when it was already pretty dark, three German miles off, near Krasno Selo. He was accompanied this time, not by his wife, but by Lieutenant General Lewof, for which Garnerin received 2000 roubles; his receipt was besides very considerable. Of the 15,000 roubles he took on his first ascent, he had lost 12,000 at the gaming-table, for which we are obliged to him as the money remains in the country; to recover his loss, however, he this time raised the price, which the publick, who are really generous, have taken very ill.

A young man, of a good Russian family, who had seduced a young woman, and then recalled his promise to marry her, has been condemned, by the Emperor to six years imprisonment, and to pay her besides a very considerable sum of money. 1003

The brother of Garnerin, the aeronaut, who is also distinguished as an experimental philosopher, has lately made the discovery of a process which affords a very fascinating effect to the beauty and variety of illuminations. This process consists in the preparation of glasses so coloured that they present one colour when viewed in one direction, and a different colour when viewed in the opposite direction. He made the first essay of this process in a splendid fete given to the King of Etruria, and it succeeded most completely. At that fete a long arched alley was illuminated after this manner, and such was the illusion produced by those glasses, that the arch of the alley presented a red colour to those who walked along it in one direction, while to those who moved in the contrary direction it presented a blue colour. This experiment has lately been repeated in the Orangerie at St. Cloud, and with equal effect and success. Mr. Garnerin has also, by some new chemical discoveries, considerably varied and improved the appearance and brilliancy of fireworks.

Sept. 1. 1803.

BALLOON.

The following letter was sent by M. GARNERIN previously to his ascent at Berlin:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HAMBURGH CORRESPONDENTS.

SIR,

The subscription opened by Messrs. FR. NITZE and Co. has had the best effects. I can assure the subscribers that my balloon is in the greatest forwardness. For the farther accommodation and satisfaction of the public, I have resolved to continue to issue tickets of admission at one rix-dollar 12 gr. each, till the 8th of this month.

I have reason to believe, Mr. Editor, from public report, that Their Majesties, the KING, QUEEN, and ROYAL FAMILY of Prussia are pleased with the undertaking, and may probably shew every encouragement to my wife and myself in the case of its success.

His MAJESTY allows me the use of the garden belonging to the Veterinary School. I shall not fail to be there at the appointed hour on the day which has been fixed. Till that day my balloon is to be seen at the Opera House.

For the satisfaction of the public, I communicate the following particulars of its dimensions, &c.

Its diameter is 26 feet.  
Its length 81 f. 8 in. 7 1.  
The measurement of the surface of both hemispheres 2124 f. 8 in. 10 1.  
Solid contents 916 f. 9 in. 6 1.  
The band which connects the two hemispheres is 2 f. 8 in. broad.

The total surface 190 f. 8 in. 7 1.  
Its cubic measurement 1239 f. 7 in. 11 1.  
The total capacity of the balloon 1446 f.  
Weight which it can sustain 812 pounds, 11 oz. 56 g.  
Actual weight of the matter of the balloon 120 pounds.  
The net 60  
The gondola or boat 50  
Mrs. Garnerin 97  
Mr. Garnerin 130  
Anchor and cable 15  
Ballast 50

Total 522

There is still a balance of 155 pounds 8 ounces for the weight of Professor HERMSTADT, if he should chuse to ascend with us.

Berlin, April 1. 1803

BERLIN, APRIL 16.

Garnier and Madame Garnier were to ascend in a balloon, a second time, from Berlin on the 13th instant, in which aerial excursion they were to be accompanied by Professor Helmstadt. April 1803

Garnier, the Aeronaut, is to ascend in a balloon and descend in a parachute, at Berlin, between the 10th and 15th inst. His Prussian Majesty patronizes the undertaking, and has subscribed 100 Louis upon the occasion. April 1803

Poor Garnerin, the Aeronaut, it is reported, has fallen a victim to his adventurous propensity. During an afflication in Russia, his balloon is said to have met with electrical matter, which entirely destroyed it, and he himself was literally dashed to pieces. April 1803

Sept. 1. 1803. We are happy to find the account of GARNERIN'S death is unfounded. An article from St. Petersburgh says:—On Saturday the 30th ult. Citizen GARNERIN ascended about nine o'clock from the garden of the Cadets, in presence of the Imperial Family, and descended about half an hour after, when it was already dark, 3 German miles off, near Krasno Selo. He was accompanied this time, not by his wife, but by Lieutenant General Lewof, for which GARNERIN received 2000 roubles: his receipt was besides very considerable. Of the 15,000 roubles he took on his first ascent, he had lost 12,000 at the gaming-table, for which we are obliged to him as the money remains in the country; to recover his loss, however, he this time raised the price, which the public, who are really generous, have taken very ill.

Garnier, who is at present in Petersburgh, has assumed the title of "Physicien aéronaut du Gouvernement François." He gave publick notice on the 16th June last, that it was his intention to rise on the 20th of that month, for the purpose of making experiments on electricity and galvanism, with a variety of curious meteorological observations, unless the wind should blow from the gulf of Finland, or the lake Ladoga, in which case he desired to be excused. The price of a ticket of admission the modst Aeronaut has in his moderation fixed at no higher than 25 roubles, or three guineas. A report is in circulation, that in his ascent, electric matter had destroyed the balloon, and that M. Garnerin was dashed to pieces. Sept. 1. 1803

Garnier, in the course of last June, published at Petersburgh, an advertisement, stating, that "Par déference pour le respectable Public de St. Petersburgh," he intended to undertake another aerial excursion, and that any gentleman might be admitted to a seat in his basket, who chose to pay the small sum of two thousand roubles for that interesting and instructive amusement. He has also advertised "pronenades à ballon captif," for one hundred roubles per "pronenade." The magnetic, galvanic and meteorological experiments, which the learned "Physicien Aéronaute" promised to make on his first aerial excursion, were omitted on account of the shortness of his journey, which lasted no longer than about 10 minutes. Oct. 1. 1803

Garnier in his 35th ascent from Moscow, saw, for the first time, an image of his balloon in the clouds in very bright prismatic colours. When at the height of 12,000 feet, he galvanized himself and observed flashes of light. While hovering over a wood he was fired at by a huntman, who with the peasants, on seeing him descend from the clouds, considered him as supernatural. 1003

IRELAND.  
DUBLIN, JULY 21. 1785



N Tuesday, at 23 minutes after two, the whole apparatus being released, Mr. Crosbie's balloon floated towards the parapet of Leinster House, and would there have encountered an interruption, had not the aeronaut thrown out some of his ballast. From thence it ascended, and afterwards descended close to a ditch in Merrion-fields, but still continuing to pour out ballast, its ascent was grand beyond conception.

The current of the wind, which carried him at first due East, soon afterwards seemed inclined to bear him North east, and pointed his voyage towards Whitehaven. When the balloon was 17 minutes in view, it immersed in a cloud, but in four minutes after, its appearance was rectified by the numerous plaudits of the multitude. It now continued in sight, by the aid of an acromatick glass, 32 minutes from its ascension, when it was entirely lost to the view; some rockets were then sent off, and the troops of volunteers, who attended, discharged their last volleys.

Mr. Crosbie had about 300lb. weight of ballast, but discharged half a hundred on his first ascending. At upwards of fourteen leagues from the Irish shore, he found himself within clear sight of both lands of the sister kingdoms, at which time, he says, it is impossible to give the human imagination any adequate idea of the unspeakable beauties which the scenery of the sea, bounded by both lands, presented. It was such, said he, as would make him risk a life, to enjoy again. He rose, at one time, so high, that the mercury in the barometer sunk entirely into its globe, and he was constrained to put on his oil cloth cloak, but he unluckily found his bottle of cordial broke, and could obtain no refreshment. The upper current of air was different from the lower, and the cold so intense, that his ink was frozen. He experienced a strong repulsion on the tympanum of the ear, and a sickness which must have been aggravated by the anxiety and fatigue of the day. At his utmost height, he thought himself stationary; but liberating some of his gas, he descended to a current of air, blowing North, and extremely rough. He now entered a black cloud, and encountered a strong wind, with lightning and thunder, which brought him rapidly towards the surface of the water. Here the balloon made a circuit, but falling lower, the water entered his car, and he lost his notes of observation; but recollecting that his watch was at the bottom of the car, he groped for it, and put it in his pocket.

All his endeavours to throw out ballast were of no avail: the intemperance of the weather plunged him into the ocean. He now thought of his cork waist-coat, and with much difficulty having put it on, the propriety of his idea in the construction of his boat became manifest, as by the admission of the water into the lower part of it, and the suspension of his bladders, which were arranged at the top, the water, added to his own weight, became proper ballast, and the balloon maintaining its poise, it became a powerful sail, and by means of a snatch-block to his car, or boat, he went before the wind as regularly as a sailing vessel. In this situation, he found himself inclined to eat, and took a morsel of fowl; when at the distance of another league, he discovered some vessels crowding after him; but as his progress outstripped all their endeavours, he lengthened the space of the balloon from the car, which gave a consequent check to the rapidity of his sailing, when the Dunleary barge came up, and fired a gun. One of the sailors jumped into his car, and made it fast to the barge, when the aeronaut came out. At this time, another of the sailors, after the car was brought on board, laid hold of the haul-yard which suspended the balloon, and it being released from its under weight, a ludicrous scene ensued; for the balloon ascended above a hundred feet into the air, to the utmost extent of the rope, the fellow hawling most vehemently, under the apprehension of taking a sight to the clouds; but being dragged down, by the united efforts of the whole crew, the poor tar was, for once, eased of his fears of going to Heaven. The barge now steered for Dunleary, and towed the balloon after it.

About ten o'clock they landed, and next morning he had the honour of receiving the congratulations of, and breakfasting with, their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, at Mr. Lee's Lodge, Blackrock. He was afterwards conducted to town by Lord Ranelagh, and Sir Frederick Flood, Bart. chairman of his committee, and at two o'clock he waited on his Grace the Duke of Leinster, and afterwards went to Dr. Austin's, in Stephen's Green. The populace having received intimation of this, crowded to the house, and notwithstanding all his endeavours to the contrary, they forced him into a chair, and carried him in triumph to the College. After he had remained at Mr. Hutchinson's house an hour, his committee waited on him, and a prodigious multitude having gathered in College-Green, and insisted on chairing him again, he found himself in reality constrained to submit, and the intrepid aeronaut was born on the shoulders of his friends (his committee walking before him) to the Castle, and afterwards, in the same procession, to his house in North-Cumberland-street, amidst the acclamations of surrounding thousands.

Crosbie, the Irish aeronaut, is preparing for another flight in a few days. It is his intention, if possible, to accomplish his first design of crossing the Irish Channel, before the severity of the winter sets in. As the curiosity even of the remotest parts has now been fully gratified by the spectacle of ascension, it were much to be wished that these hazardous experiments, which can be reduced to no purpose of utility, and from which philosophy cannot gain an iota of information, should be instantly and absolutely relinquished.

16 Nov. 1785

The following is an authentic relation of the particulars of Mr. Crosbie's aerial voyage from Limerick, on Thursday the 27th ult., communicated by himself. *Dublin Ex. Post. April 1786.*

"The anxiety I laboured under, from the apprehension of any accident happening in the process of inflation, which would inevitably prevent my ascent, obliged me to proceed with caution, and I fear I trespassed too long on the obliging patience of my friends. As no more materials could be procured town, it was necessary to allow proper time for the operation, and to pay it that attention which the goodness and activity of the gentlemen who assisted enabled me to do.

"The happy moment at length arrived, which put me in full possession of all that could charm the eye of man, and gratify my warmest ambition. As I gradually ascended, the expanding landscape presented such a scene as no pen can describe; the river Shannon, with all its little islands, formed a pleasing variety I had before been unacquainted with; I determined to take a drawing of it, and had scarcely ended my salutations to the fair assemblage had left, now become undistinguishable, when I assumed my paper and pencil, and began my chart; but when I had reached a considerable altitude, I found my drawing had been false, as I commenced it on an extended scale, that was still diminishing as I ascended. I now examined my barometer, which had stood at 30. 1-10 on earth, and found it had fallen to 15. I hung out my grapping, in order to clear the rope to which it was fastened, and that it should answer as a plummet, by which means I could accurately perceive the course I took; and as I was exceedingly tossed about by the agitation of the atmosphere in the ascent, I concluded there prevailed several different currents, which I at once determined to explore, and the experiment in the end gave me exquisite delight.

"I observed the course I was now taking was almost due West, exactly over the Shannon, and could perceive a rapid approach towards the Western ocean; I made a note of the degree at which my barometer stood, 15, and ascended till it fell to 13, where I got into a current from N. N. E. by which I was conveyed over Tarbert, and part of the county of Kerry, but could perceive nothing more in appearance than a figured plain, chequered like a carpet. The prospect was unbounded, but by accumulating clouds, which formed my horizon; I could plainly see the Lake of Killarney, but those sonorous hills which surrounded it were levelled with the surface. On taking an observation, I now perceived I was stationary; and on looking at my barometer, found it had fallen to 12 2-10. I continued perpendicular over a small green field for upwards of half an hour, during which time I eat my dinner, (that from fatiguing and fatigue before was become very necessary) and drank my bottle of wine, to the health of my numerous friends on earth. I had been obliged before from cold to put on my oiled silk wrapper, and now experienced its utility; my feet and hands, however, were very cold, and as I was determined to explore a higher region, I had recourse to a phial of strong lavender drops, which I drank off, without observing the strength of them; and though every humid thing about me had been frozen, the lavender drops and the bottle they were in, felt as warm as if they had been at the fire.

"After using this precaution, I ascended to an higher altitude than I had ever been in before; the barometer fell to 10 5-16ths, the difficulty of breathing I had before experienced, was now increased to a considerable degree, my heart beat with astonishing rapidity, and my ears, from the dilation of the cellular vessels, felt as if going to burst. My breath congealing on the instant of respiration, fell like a light snow, and collected on my lap as it dropped. As I had not taken any additional covering but my loose gown, my feet and hands became intensely cold, and my fingers cramped, but to my astonishment, the difficulty of breathing gradually decreased, and the pain in my ears became less; these circumstances, added to my having now got into a current which carried me Eastward, and in a right direction for Limerick again, determined me to remain at the same altitude, until I had got nearly over the city.

"The variety of currents I had before experienced, I could now plainly see under me, and by observing from my notes the different degrees at which the barometer stood in each, and descending accordingly, I could take any of my former courses at pleasure. I regretted the lateness of the hour, (now near six o'clock) and the unprepared state I was in to withstand the cold, and flattered myself with the expectation of alighting near the city whence I set out; but as I did not continue long enough in the Eastern current, and thereby provide for a contrary inclination in my descent, I was carried with the lower one to the N. W. over Dromoland, the seat of Sir Lucius O'Brien, the cultivated appearance of which tempted me to accelerate my descent, in order to alight there; but the wind blowing much stronger than I had thought, hurried me a little beyond the house, before I reached the earth. After my grapping, as I imagined, had secured its hold by a rock, I put out my barometer, and some other loose articles, and endeavoured to secure my balloon, &c.

"I leaped out, still keeping my hands, and as much of my weight as I could on the boat, calling loudly for assistance. One or two rustics, who I saw in a field for some time, observed me, and I thought were coming to my assistance, but to my great mortification it was quite the reverse; astonishment and fear lent them wings, and they fled from me with precipitation. I destroyed a considerable deal of the balloon's power of ascent, but found the difficulty of holding it by myself so great, that after the grapping quitted its hold, I was obliged to yield with the car until it came to a dry wall. I now imagined I had it secure, as I intended, when an intermission from squalls would allow me, to load it with stones; but this bulwark being too much for one, and a very heavy squall of wind just coming on, the wall gave way, and after being dragged through the breach, and approaching fast to the river Pergus, I was obliged to relinquish my hold, and had the mortification to see my chariot reseized without me.

"Mr. Singleton, on whose ground I alighted, at ten minutes past six, sent his men in search of me, but could not come up in time to give me assistance; they however conducted me to his house, where I experienced that hospitality, which characterizes the county of Clare. The balloon was as fortunate as myself, as it was taken up by Captain O'Brien, at Ennis, for whose care and attention, I shall ever consider myself under many obligations."

Crosbie, the Irish Aeronaut, comes over next month in his balloon from Dublin to Holyhead. Lord Mountmorris is to accompany him with a pocket full of his own speeches, by way of ballast. A friend, to whom his Lordship communicated his intention, observed that he had no occasion to be alarmed on the undertaking; as in case Crosbie should have occasion to throw him into the sea, his head would always keep him above water. 1786

1785. The fate of Ballooning, in this kingdom, wears a sorry complexion. Mr. Crosbie has not yet bettered his fortune by his trips to the clouds; but as to unfortunate Potain, he and his companions have been totally ruined, inasmuch that they were starving, until the *amor patriæ* and humanity of Fontaine, the dancing master, relieved their distresses, and sent them to their own country, when left to perish by those who affected to patronize aeronautics, on the arrival and ascent of Potain. The balloon itself became a stake for the rent due by its exhibition at Ranelagh; and so ended all the air-built hopes of the third traveller in the Irish atmosphere. Sept. 6.

*Extract of a letter from New York, July 15.*

" On the 4th of July there were a great many pretty exhibitions of one kind or another, but none in which address and management was more conspicuous, than in the letting off a balloon in Broad-street. A man, who for some time past has amused the vulgar in different ways, advertised last week, that on the Anniversary of Independence, a balloon would commence its flight from a place which is dignified with the name of the Academy : at the hour appointed, a vast crowd of every description attended, with eager expectation, waiting the moment which was to crown their wishes—when unfortunately an under-sheriff appeared, with a writ against the showman for \$500. Nothing could equal the terror of the culprit, or the anger of the mob :—Knock him down ! knock him down ! was echoed from each corner of the place ; and, notwithstanding the firmness of the sheriff, he certainly would have fallen, a sacrifice to his untimely interposition, had he not agreed to suspend the arrest until the expectations of the public should be satisfied, or he should have double right to seize his victim, as an abuser of public as well as private faith.

" This matter being arranged, the balloon was soon filled with inflammable air ; but the joy of the gazers was for a moment damped, by information that some of the inside apparatus had given way, which would take at least half an hour to remedy ; the showman, in order to repair the supposed damage, stepped into the balloon, his assistants cut the cords, and he ascended with all the gaiety imaginable, to the unspeakable joy of the beholders ; even the sheriff, who had left his prey, forgot his loss, and cried out huzza ! when the balloon had ascended about fifty yards above the heads of the crowd, the navigator informed them, that as the wind was Easterly he should shape his course to Kentucky, where he should be happy to meet his friend the sheriff ; he instantly arose with great velocity, and was soon lost to view."

1705

#### AMERICAN NEWS.

New York, Oct. 6. A balloon was exhibited on the 28th of September last, at Philadelphia, by Mr. Buffelot.

This balloon was in the form of a globe divided into eighteen ribs, between which was placed blue stripes, elegantly adorned with thirteen silver stars, the whole supported by a red crown fixed in the interior part of the balloon, with a dark ground, that had the most agreeable effect. At six o'clock, P. M. Mr. Buffelot began to fill the balloon, which exhibited the most beautiful appearance to a respectable and numerous company. It rose with some difficulty, on account of the breeze having entirely failed : however, it ascended most majestically about 3000 feet ; which distance from the ground it constantly kept, until its fall on the Jersey shore, having in the course of thirty-five minutes vaulted about six miles in the air without any breeze.

*Extract of a letter from Strasburg, Oct. 16.*

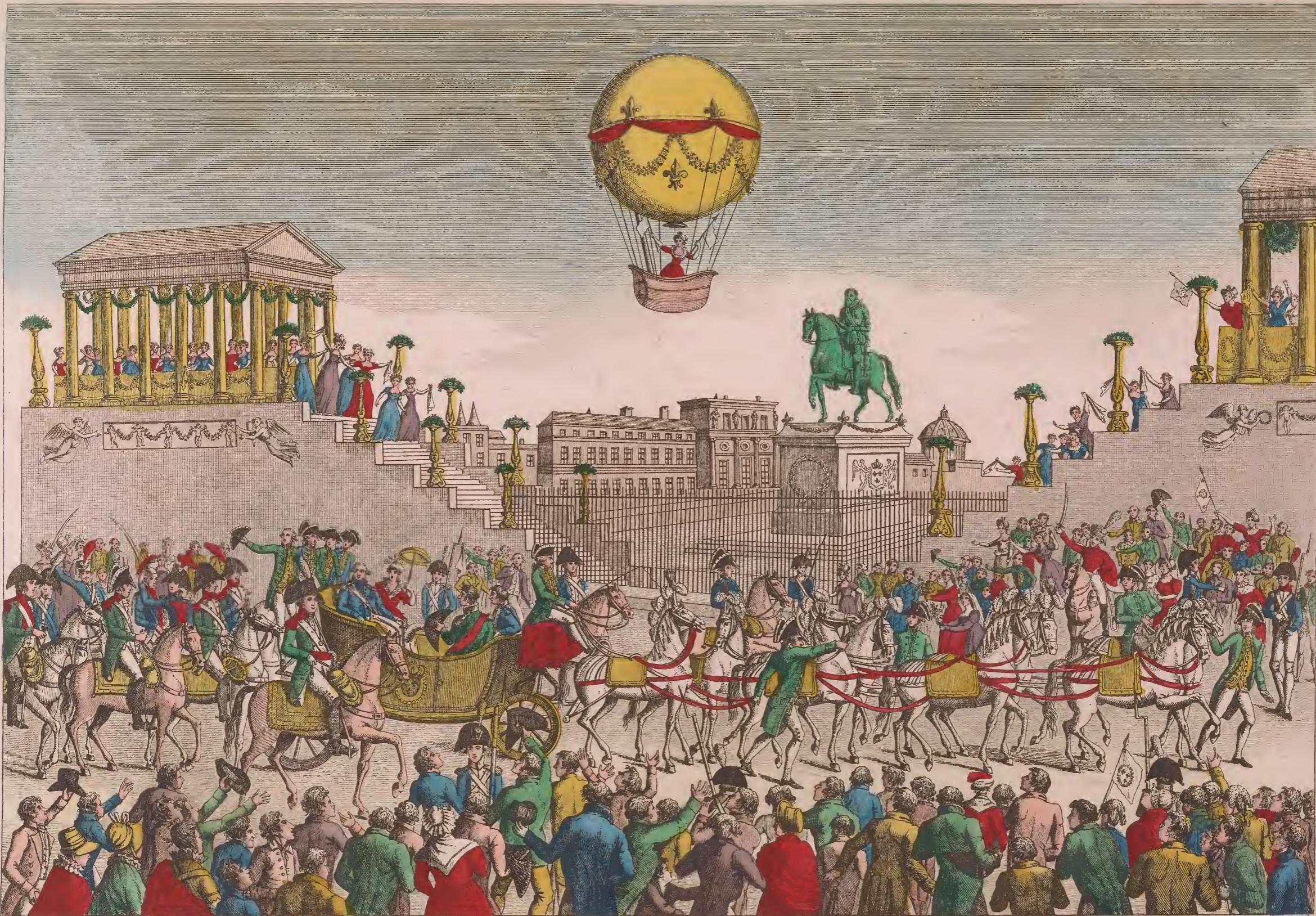
" A sublimer traveller, a new hero, enters the atmospheric theatre, and has deserved a superior degree of publick admiration for his unrivaled performance ! Mr. Henri de Clermont, a Swiss adventurer, is the gentleman I am speaking of, and to whose descent I was this morning a witness. To please the citizens of Geneva he has far out-dived (if may invert this expression) any of his predecessors, in a balloon of a new construction, and of uncommon power ; but I had better tell you his story as I heard it.

" Myself, with Mr. Zolicoffer (the banker) to whom I am here recommended, were this morning walking in some vine-yards, and admiring the cheerful busines of the vintagers, the welcome warmth of the south wind, and the unclouded face of Heaven, when a flitting shadow, that glanced along the ground before us, drew our attention to an immense balloon, about a third part inflated, which was descending with great rapidity before us. We ran up to the place, where it seemed likely to stop, and, when it was within about six feet of the ground, a handsome, florid young man, seemingly about twenty, jumped eagerly from a gallery affixed to it, and catching us both with transport in his arms ; " Am I again amongst men ?" said he ; and dropping some tears upon my shoulder, to which, from the natural sympathy of similar years, he preferably leaned, " God ! God ! I thank thee ! I am again amongst men !" he repeated with such a voice, that I could not deny him some responsive drops.

" After the first effusions of his joy were over, we turned to look for his balloon, which had remounted a few feet on his quitting it, but fell back almost immediately to the earth ; and fearing ourselves on the wreck, he took some biscuits from a box it contained, whilst Mr. Zolicoffer purchased a basket of fine grapes from the vintagers, and we took a rural repast together. He then related to us the history of his tour, pretty nearly in the following words. Wishing, with the impetuosity of youth, to do something towards the improvement of these aerial vehicles, whose invention and progress I have attended to with all the enthusiasm of a lover ; I adjusted to the summit of a common globe of oiled silk, a valve, pressed down with a spring that just yielded to a weight of half a pound, a pressing force which I knew, from trial, every square foot (so big was the valve) of the balloon was more than able to sustain. I then fixed a second sphere of silk above this valve, that the escape of inflammable air, which its increasing expansive force renders necessary in the upper regions of the atmosphere, might, by inflating the superior globe, increase instead of diminishing the power of ascension in my machine. I then filled the inferior air skin, and with the usual appendages of a gallery, some sand bags, a flag, a barometer, a bottle of wine, and these biscuits, the balloon was fitted for my expedition. The apparatus was so closely sewed that it remained exposed all last night without any sensible loss of air, and this morning about half after six, notwithstanding a night of sleepless impatience, I was quite in spirits to ascend, and mounted my car, which slowly rose amidst a crowd of admiring spectators. On the more rapid wing of vanity my soul was lifted to the highest pitch of exstacy, and I waved my flag with exultation till my beholders were indistinct from distance. I then emptied one sand bag after another into the lake, and rose with inconceivable though almost imperceptible rapidity, whilst the earth seemed slipping under me with equal velocity southward. With what delight I now contemplated the grand scene below ! The rugged mountains of Switzerland lying like a map beneath me, and protruding their long shadows into the plains of Burgundy ! The lake of Geneva but a pond, and its city a point ! The Po, the Rhone, the Rhine, and the Danube, streamlets, whose infant progress I could trace, but whose bolder flow the dim horizon hid ! The sun scarce risen, and apparently below my level ! Such were the grand objects that continued to elate me. My superior globe was now swelling apace, and my ascent redoubled in swiftness, if to it, and not to the sun's warmth, I may attribute the swift change which the earth's appearance underwent. It was now a huge circular plane of a greyish green cast ; the sun, around blaze of glory, burned with the white ethereal lustre of the other stars, which the refractions of this thinner atmosphere no longer concealed. My respiration grew uncommonly rapid and violent ; my barometer, which I but now thought of consulting, was cracked, and my bottle of wine burst suddenly with a loud explosion, and its contents disappeared in vapour.

" I now began to be alarmed for my safety, and as I thought I might guess at my elevation by observing the swiftness of a body let fall from the balloon, I took a small pebble out of one of the sand bags, and let it slide down the side of the gallery. Judge of my terror, when I perceived my machine attracted it more strongly than the earth, and it hung suspended like a drop of water from one corner of the bottom. " And shall I never set foot again upon my native planet, but freeze slowly to death in the empty waste of space, far from my friends—my mother ?" exclaimed I, casting myself on the floor in an agony of despair, and gnawing my seat with bitter rage ; then casting a dry eye of imprecation towards Heaven, " shall I never again return to earth ?" and relapsed into the profoundest misery, swallowed up in the idea of being without the sphere of attraction of the world. At length rising with collected fury, and armed with the courage of despair, I slit quite across with my penknife the lower globe, and flung out some slips of torn paper, to see if I distanced them in my descent. They remained suspended in the same level with myself, trembling and flickering, indeed, as if agitated by a wind, to which I was insensible, but apparently indifferent as to their direction, and my last ray of hope seemed extinct. After a while they rose ; I looked down at my pebble, it was fallen, the lower globe had collapsed, and with sobs of rapture I now thanked the Duty, whom in my fury I had dared to arraign. The sun burned yellower, the stars vanished, the earth's surface grew distinct, and my respiration easy ; at last I could fold you in my arms, and Heaven blest those whose embrace first convinced me I was still within the reach of men.

" We dined by ourselves at Mr. Zolicoffer's, but, before the coffee was brought, the vintagers had so far spread the report of an aerial traveller's arrival, that the house of the good banker was surrounded by a mob, eager to see him ; and not an acquaintance of his, but, under one pretence or another, came in to drink a cup of coffee with this new Icarus. Mr. De Clermont is as affable and mild humoured as he is handsome ; he gave everybody his hand, went and spoke to the populace at the door, and accepts (during his stay) of a bed. He sprained his ankle in the jump, which will confine him a good deal. I remain, yours, &c.



ENTRÉE DANS LA VILLE DE PARIS,

*De sa Majesté Louis XVIII Roi de France et de Navarre, le 4 Mai 1814.*

*A Paris chez Jean, Rue St. Jean de Beauvais, N° 10.*

## AERIAL VOYAGE. June 1804.

We have been favoured by Mr. GARNERIN with the following particulars of his atmospheric journey. The morning of the 28th, although rainy, was not without favourable appearances. Mr. Garnerin made, in that hope, his chemical apparatus work for the extraction of the inflammable gas. The balloon was filled in regular time, though much tossed about by a very high wind.

About one o'clock it was full, and ready to carry passengers and provisions. From one o'clock till half after four, the wind blew a hurricane. Had Mr. Garnerin been then happy enough to avail himself of former successes in this country, most likely he would with pleasure have acquiesced in the general and unanimous solicitations of the brilliant assemblage of rank and fashion, who intreated him not to attempt his ascent in such boisterous weather, whose fury was less to be apprehended at the moment of leaving the earth than at the time of landing.

Induced by such powerful considerations, Mr. Garnerin urged Captain Sowden, his travelling companion, to desist from his intended journey, as he conceived it was his duty to run alone the dangers of the day, since nothing but mere curiosity could have induced him to undertake this perilous excursion. Captain Sowden, notwithstanding Mr. Garnerin's representations and entreaties, listened to his courage only, which triumphed over the arduous trial he had to encounter. From half after four till five a few showers of rain fell, and calmed for a few moments only the violence of the wind, which afterwards raged with increased fury. At five precisely, the travellers mounted the aerial car; each of them unfurled and waved the colours of their respective nations, which they re-united, as a symbol of alliance and amity.

The Balloon having been conducted round the ring, the travellers, placed in the car, took their leave among the plaudits and anxious good-wishes of the surrounding company, and sprung majestically towards the celestial regions, where the raging winds seemed to be the rulers.

The inhabitants of London had then an opportunity of seeing the standards of all nations with which the Balloon was dressed rising proudly from the borders of the Thames, and losing themselves in the immensity of space; and in the same manner as they were seen on the 18th Brumaire (9th of November) springing from the very bosom of the Seine, at Paris.

At the moment of departure, the balloon directed its course across St. James's Park, and went over the river between Westminster and Blackfriar's-bridge.—Perceiving then that the aerial vehicle was descending, Mr. Garnerin threw out some ballast; he then rose much above St. Paul's, whence the travellers had an opportunity of viewing at one sight the city of London and its suburbs. The temperature was already 15 degrees colder. Mr. Garnerin and Mr. Sowden felt quite chilly. London soon disappeared by croffing a cloud, which being surmounted, made them likewise lose sight of the earth. The temperature was milder. The inflammable air began then to dilate; and the Aéronauts provided the means of safety by procuring every necessary emission of air. Dinner was then introduced and eaten with pleasure and appetite; at dessert, Mr. Garnerin informed Capt. Sowden that their journey was drawing to a conclusion, and it was necessary to prepare for a descent extremely hazardous, on account of the excessive violence of the wind, which was likely to precipitate the travellers and the machine on the trees, on the hedges, on the housets, and, in fact, on every thing that would obstruct their passage.

The travellers had been exploring the atmosphere upwards of half an hour only, and having no idea of being at such distance, thought it nevertheless expedient to come down. Mr. Garnerin opened the *soupape* or aperture of his balloon, to cross again the same cold and dark clouds already mentioned. The earth became visible as well as the sea, which they saw very close, an arm of which they even crossed. The anchor and cordage were ready for landing; the fury of the wind made the balloon bounce from place to place as it grounded and dragged the travellers, through fields, trees, and bushes, by which their hands were severely torn. The anchor now and then caught the ground, and fastened at last to a hedge near a house, whose inhabitants, frightened at the sight of the aerial machine, not only declined to give assistance, but actually offered to fire on the voyagers. At this juncture, the rope that fastened to the anchor broke, and the machine was carried with additional violence against a tree, by which Mr. Sowden received a severe blow on the head. The balloon, however, having been torn in the lower part; both the cords and netting of the railing of the car broke, and the wind again forced away these gentlemen from the tree they were strongly clasping, but with the assistance of a new though last exertion, the Aérial had an opportunity of leaving the car and balloon, which fell upwards of 200 yards further.

Mr. Garnerin and Capt. Sowden were then four miles beyond Colchester; they went over Epping Forest, &c., and performed this long and arduous journey, in the short space of three quarters of an hour.

Mr. Garnerin mentions in the handiest terms the courage Captain Sowden evinced, in this new instance, and with peculiar expressions of gratitude and acknowledgements of the perseverance with which he voluntarily shared the dangers attending their landing, as he could several times have extricated himself from the car, which he never thought of leaving without his pilot. He has unfortunately received some contusions; but they are of no consequence.

The remains of the Balloon are now exhibiting in the Pantheon, with the Aérostat and Parachute, with which Mr. Garnerin is to make his new experiment at Lord's Cricket Ground next Saturday, if the weather permits.

BALLOON.—On the 23d May, Madame GARNERIN, with a Russian Lady, ascended in a balloon at Moscow. These Ladies did not desist from their bold enterprise, though at the instant a thunder storm, with hail and lightning, made it very hazardous. A quarter before eight o'clock in the evening, they ascended 5,500 feet. They heard in the air thundering every where round them, and felt the effect of the electric fluid in the atmosphere, which was full of clouds and rain, and agitated by wind. They descended twenty werstes from Moscow, not without great danger; the Russian Lady received a severe contusion, by coming against a tree. As the balloon was become very heavy from the rain, the female aéronauts had been obliged to throw away all their instruments, even the parachute, and when they touched the ground, only ten pounds of ballast remained.

Tue. 2 1804.

The aéronaut Garnerin has arrived at Frankfort, from St. Petersburg, on his way to Paris. He has been forced to postpone his journey to Constantinople, for want of money, having imprudently lost in gambling every thing that he had gained in Russia. It is due to Madame Garnerin to demand an act of indemnification from her indiscreet husband, who, in four years past, had lost three fortunes:

Oct. 1804



Madame GARNERIN has returned from St. Petersburg. During a stay of twelve months in the Russian Empire, she and her husband have made 50,000 roubles, 8,000, which she has carried back to Paris with her in good Bills of Exchange. M. GARNERIN is on his way to Constantinople, where he hopes to make a still greater sum.

1804

Deprived of the opportunity of regulating the valve, my balloon, like a ship without a rudder, floated in air, obeying the influence of the temperature, the winds, and the rain. Whenever the force of these made me descend, the storm, which kept still increasing, obliged me to throw out ballast, for the purpose of avoiding it, and escaping from imminent shipwreck. At length, at four o'clock in the morning, after having been almost continually enveloped in thick clouds, through which I could seldom see the moon, all my means of supporting myself in the air were exhausted. Whatever skill I possessed was no longer of use to me. My boat several times struck against the ground, and rebounded from thence. The tempest often drove me against the sides and tops of mountains. Whenever my anchor caught in a tree, the balloon was so violently agitated by the wind, that I experienced all the inconvenience of a violent sea-sickness. Plunged at one time to the bottom of a precipice, in an instant after I ascended, and acquired a new elevation. The violence of the concussions exhausted my strength, and I lay for a half hour in the boat in a state of insensibility. During this tempest I recovered; I perceived Mont Tonnerre, and it was in the midst of crashes of thunder, and at a moment which I supposed would be my last, that I planted upon this celebrated mountain the Eagle of Napoleon joined to that of Alexander.

I was carried away for some time longer by gusts of wind, but fortunately some peasants came to my assistance at the moment that the anchor hooked in a tree. They took hold of the cords which hung from the balloon, and landed me in a forest upon the side of a mountain, at half past five in the morning, seven hours and a half after my departure, and more than 100 leagues distant from Paris. They took me to Clausen, in the canton of Waldischbach, and department of Mont Tonnerre. M. Cesar, a man of information, and Mayor of the neighbouring town, came and offered me every assistance in his power, and at my request drew up a narrative, of which he gave me a copy.

I was splendidly entertained the next day at Deux Ponts by a Society of Friends of the Arts, consisting of Public Functionaries, the Officers of the 12th Regiment of Cuirassiers, and of the Members of the Lodge of Freemasons.

GARNERIN.

## Second Ascension by Night of M. Garnerin.

My second aerial journey by night will not afford an opportunity for the brilliant narratives which I have had occasion to make in the course of my 40 preceding ascensions. I shall not have to describe the majestic appearances which nature continually offers to the eyes of an aéronaut who ascends in favourable weather. I can only give a narrative of an aerial tempest which was nigh terminating in a shipwreck.

The obstacles which the wind caused to the inflation of the balloon sufficiently apprised me of the approach of the storm; and to the difficulties of the weather was added the turbulence of a party, by which I was prevented from placing the cord of the valve, so as to regulate the tube, which, in case of expansion, was to conduct the gas into a direction different from the lights which surrounded the bottom of the balloon.

I was to have been accompanied by M. De Chassenton; but the aerial storm, which continually increased until the moment of my departure, gave me reason to apprehend such a disaster as Mr. Blanchard and another aeronaut, met with in Holland. M. De Chassenton was actually in the boat. I must bear witness to his determination; for I am convinced that nothing could have made this young man, remarkable for his merit, quit the boat, if the well-grounded apprehension which I entertained, of seeing him exposed to certain destruction, had not suggested to me the idea of declaring to him, that the balloon was not capable of carrying up two persons.

It was thus in the most adverse weather, and exposed to the greatest opposition and the tumult of a cabal, the head of which it is easy to guess at, that I ascended from Tivoli, at half past 10 o'clock on the night of the 21st of September. An unexampled rapidity of ascension, but extremely necessary to prevent me from coming in contact with the adjoining houses, raised me above the clouds, and in a few minutes carried me to an immense height, the extent of which I cannot precisely ascertain, on account of the dangers and embarrassments which suddenly affected my imagination, and prevented me from observing the decension of the mercury in the barometer. Elevated in an instant to the frozen regions, the balloon became subject to a degree of expansion which inspired me with the greatest apprehension. There was no alternative between certain death and giving an instant vent to the gas; and this at the risk of seeing the balloon take fire. I gradually opened with one hand an orifice of about two feet diameter, by which the gas escaped in large volumes, while, with the other, I extinguished as many of the lights as I could. During this effort I several times was near overbalancing myself, and falling out of the boat.

Garnerin, who ascended in a balloon from the Gardens of Tivoli, at Paris, on the 5th instant, at eleven o'clock at night, descended the next day at half past six in the morning, on the banks of the little river Wesle, near Chamerlois, five leagues from Rheims, having passed through a space of 45 leagues (French), in seven hours and a half. Garnerin was to undertake another aerial voyage from the Gardens of Tivoli, on the 18th of this month, accompanied by his wife.

Aug. 5 1807.

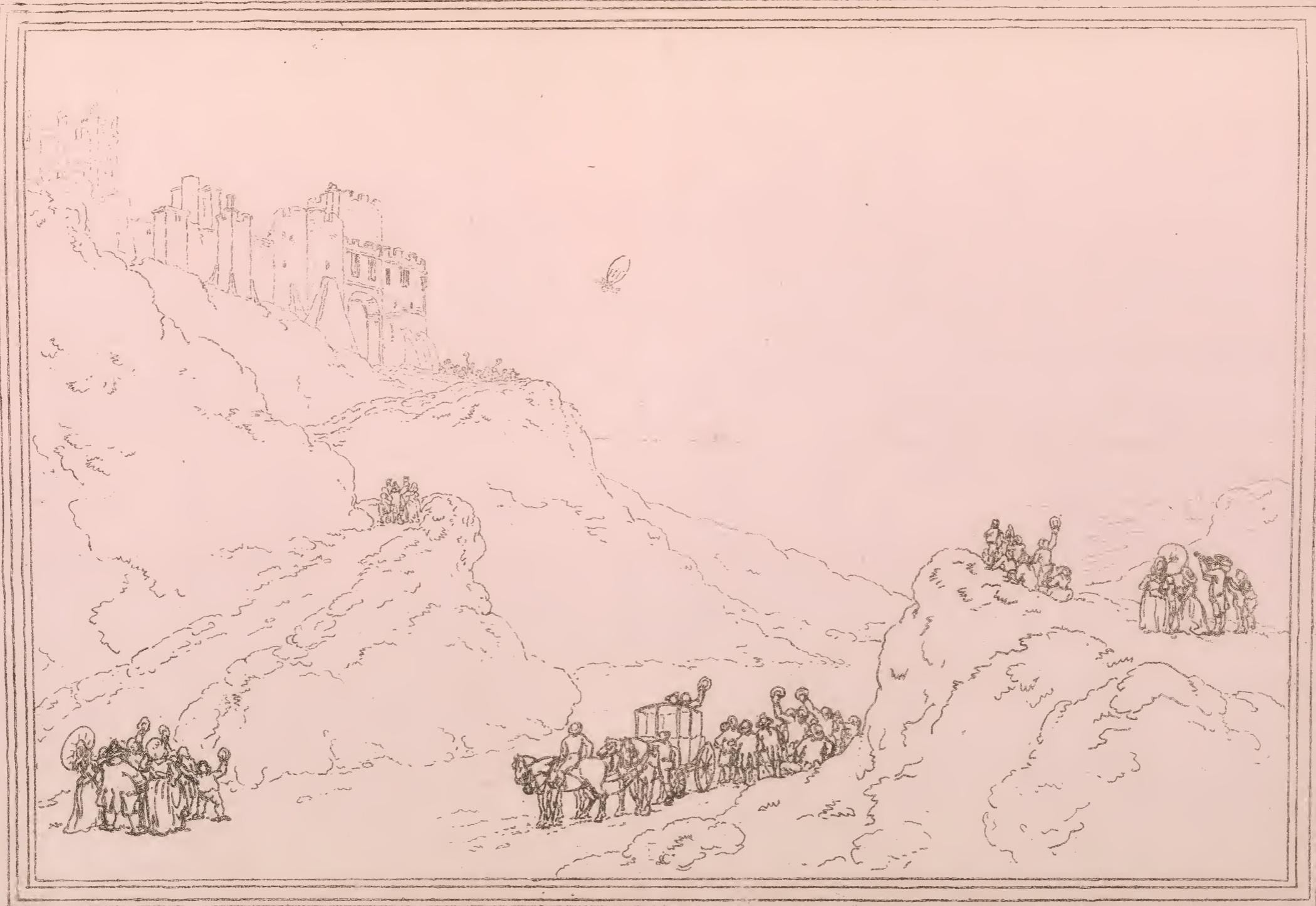
M. GARNERIN.—The following particulars of M. GARNERIN's last ascent, near Paris, is copied from a French Paper:—His balloon, after having been tossed in the air by the rapid changes of the wind, at last made a direct ascent of 3000 toises, and encountered a very humid cloud, which he hastened to quit, as he felt the cold insupportable, and his lights threatened to go out. Having rowed about for some time without knowing where he was, he descended just at day-break to within 300 toises of the earth. Having perceived some reapers who were not afraid of his approach, he inquired of them, and learned that he was near Saon, the capital of the department of Aisne. The desire he had of making some observations, determined him to continue his aerial voyage. He therefore reascended to a greater height than before, and there the temperature was eight degrees above 0: this he abandoned immediately, for fear of being affected by the too rapid transition from heat to cold. He reports having seen in that elevated region many meteors, from which he took care to preserve a respectful distance. Courrielot-sur-Velle, where he descended at about six in the morning, is a village of the department of the Maine, five leagues beyond Rheims, and 15 from Paris.

Aug. 30. 1807.

A Nocturnal Balloon.—Garnerin has made a new and beautiful use of the Balloon at Paris. He mounted from the gardens of Tivoli at night, in a balloon illuminated with 120 lamps. He mounted from the gardens at 11 o'clock on a very dark night, under Russian colours, as a sign of peace. When floating high in the air, above the multitude of admiring spectators, a flight of sky-rockets were discharged at him, which, he says, broke into sparks, hardly rising to his vision from the earth; and Paris, with all its blaze of reflecting lamps, appeared to him but like a spot—like the Pleiades, for instance, to the naked eye. He gained an elevation, he says, of 3000 toises, and speaks with enthusiasm of his seeing the sun rise at that height. After a flight of seven hours and a half, he descended near Reims, 45 leagues from Paris.

Sept. 6. 1807.

GARNERIN, in his second aerial voyage, by night, which took place at Tivoli, at half past ten on the 21st ult. experienced a dreadful storm, and the tempest frequently drove him against the sides and tops of mountains. After experiencing a variety of disasters, in the midst of crashes of thunder, and lying half an hour in the boat in a state of insensibility, the balloon at length lodged upon Mount Tonnerre, where, with the assistance of some peasants, he landed in a forest at the side of the mountain, at half past five in the morning, having gone one hundred leagues (French) in seven hours and a half.



Pub'd Jan'y 1794 by J W Forrester No 3 Piccadilly where may be had all Rowlandson's Works



### AEROSTATION.

Britannia Exhibiting a Portrait of  
Rear Admiral S<sup>r</sup> Edward Vernon,  
and pointing to the Balloon in which he  
Ascended with Count Zambecari.

This PLATE is most respectfully Dedicated to S<sup>r</sup> Edw<sup>d</sup> Vernon, by his most obedient Servant,

W<sup>m</sup> Hincks



Rear Admiral S<sup>r</sup> Edward Vernon,  
Ascended with Count Zambecari.

Published as the Act directs. by W<sup>m</sup> Hincks, June 10<sup>th</sup> 1785.

The first experiment in England was made by Count Zambecari. On the 25th of November, 1783, a balloon of oiled silk, richly gilt, and filled with hydrogen gas, ascended from Moor-fields, London. At the latter end of the same year, Mr. Sadler sent up one from Oxford.

#### AIR-BALLOON.

WITH HIS MAJESTY'S PERMISSION ALREADY OBTAINED. 1784

COUNT ZAMBECCARI respectfully acquaints the Nobility, Gentry, and Public in general, that his large Aerostatic Globe of 50 feet in diameter, with which he and his partner will ascend to a great height in the atmosphere, to make the experiments already published in his plan of subscription, will be exhibited in Hyde-park, commonly called High-park.

Each subscriber for One Guinea will have a ticket entitling four persons to be admitted either on foot, or in a carriage; and for Half a Guinea two persons on foot.

The subscriptions are taken in at the following places:

Mr. Coglan's, bookseller, in Duke-street, Grosvenor-square.

Mr. Booker, stationer, at No. 56, New Bond-street.

Mr. Samuel Hayes, bookseller, No. 332, Oxford-street.

Mr. Debrett's (successor to Mr. Almon) opposite Burlington-house, Piccadilly.

Mr. Barnes, engraver and seal-maker, Coventry-street, Hay-market.

Mr. Thomas Payne's, bookseller, Mew's-gate.

Mr. Adams, mathematician to his Majesty, Fleet-street.

Mr. William Nicoll's, bookseller, No. 51, St. Paul's church-yard.

Messrs. Nairne and Blunt, mathematical and philosophical instrument-makers, at No. 10, in Cornhill, opposite the Royal Exchange.

Mr. John Hamilton Moore's, mathematician, No. 104, Minories.

A correspondent, who has seen Count Zambecari's advertisement, announcing his intention of taking in his vehicle a Lady and Gentleman on his aerial tour, is much pleased at the idea of the third person. For should a Lady of spirit, of some beauty and fortune, be hardy enough to venture herself singly; and the Count should in that state of elevation so far forget himself, (our correspondent swears by the zone of Venus he would not answer for himself in similar situation) as to fancy himself to be Jupiter *pro tempore*, with a Juno to every opportunity: and actually should take it into his Godship's capitol to impregnate his Goddess upon the summit of some silver cloud! Juno, upon revisiting her native earth, would be strangely puzzled how to prosecute Count Jupiter for a rape in case of violence in *Orbe Lunæ*. Our correspondent having (as he says) a small smattering of the law, is afraid the matter would not be cognizable in our Courts below, and solicies, nay intreats the dear sweet little souls to be upon their guard, and not risk a *jog* in the clouds until a Lunar or Atmospheric Court be first instituted to protect them from ravishment, *inter fidera*. He farther observes, that the cafe (tho' not an improbable one) would be a new cafe; and be productive, no doubt, of much entertainment to the Gentlemen of the *tega longa*. Their Gravities of the Bench, he thinks, would hardly be able to suppress the smile on investigating this *nubilar* offence, and must necessarily be tickled with the novelty, of such a *rencontre* in a flying gondola. Dec. 6. 1784

LYCEUM in the STRAND.  
BRITISH BALLOON.  
ALTHOUGH (without recurring to fallacious persuasions) so many thousands have honoured Count ZAMBECCARI's Aerostatic Globe with inspection, as there still may remain some who wish for the tame rational gratification, the Exhibition of this superior, and truly magnificent Aerial Vehicle will continue a few days longer, when it will certainly close, in order to prepare for A cession; an event which will take place as early as possible in the next month, of which timely notice will be given. A Gentleman of the first distinction accompanies Count Zambecari; and as the Balloon admits of three attendants, a second respectable person may also be accommodated. The Lyceum is kept so warm as to secure the most delicate constitution from injury; and the Exhibitor will be open from Ten o'clock in the morning until (illuminated with wax-lights) Nine at night. Herald. Feb. 10. 1785

The effect Mr. Blanchard's frequent voyages have had on the minds of the public, is plainly evinced, by the little apprehension now entertained for the personal safety of aerial voyagers. In proof of this idea, we hear, that Admiral Sir Edward Vernon has engaged to accompany Comte Zambecari in his aerial excursion; and we speedily expect to hear, that some British heroine, of equal respectability, will be inspired with resolution to complete the trio. 1785.

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, a correspondent informs us, the exhibition at the Lyceum in the Strand, of Count Zambecari's magnificent Air Balloon, is honored with the inspection of a great number of respectable and scientific persons; and, if the concurring opinion of the whole is to be credited, the public were never before entertained with such a happy combination of grandeur, ingenuity, and elegance. The compliments paid to the noble constructor, are numerous and flattering; and the affability and attention with which he explains the particulars of this assemblage of mechanical excellence, increases the approbation of his abilities, into the highest veneration for his personal good qualities. Dec. 10. 1784

A correspondent informs us, that on seeing Comte Zambecari's Air Balloon yesterday at the Lyceum, he was not more astonished at the grandeur of the aerial vehicle, than the singular ingenuity of the apparatus for feathering the oars, which he is informed was constructed by the ingenious Mr. Bedrick, Smith, of Gerrard-street, Soho; and likewise the construction of Mr. Lunardi's tin boat, to be seen in the Pantheon, which exceeds the most sanguine expectation, as appeared upon trial on the River Thames, where it sailed with upwards of a ton weight.

COUNT ZAMBECCARI acknowledges the liberality of the public, during the exhibition of his Aerostatic Globe, at the Lyceum in the Strand, and respectfully gives notice, that having succeeded in the procurement of a suitable place for its ascention, subscriptions for tickets to partake of the peculiar pleasure inseparable from aerial evolutions, are now delivering at the Lyceum Office. The tickets will be sold to such as signify their commands and address, a few days before the ascension, which will certainly precede the approaching holidays. The tickets will announce the precise day and place, both of which circumstances it is wished to conceal, to prevent the inconvenience of too numerous an assemblage of spectators; the Nobility and Gentry are assured, that the spot is singularly eligible, and that the accommodations and regulations to render the access easy, and to preserve good order, will give perfect satisfaction. The best accommodations will be half a guinea each, the others five shillings, and without tickets no person will be admitted. The speediest application for tickets is requested, that a judgment may be formed of the necessary preparations: Count Zambecari will have the honor to be accompanied by a British gentleman of the first distinction; and as the Balloon admits of three attendants, a second respectable person, by applying immediately, may also be accommodated. The exhibition at the Lyceum, will finally close in a few days, for ascensional preparation, in the mean time it will continue open as usual, from ten o'clock in the morning, until nine at night. Admittance One Shilling only. Mar. 8. 1785.

LYCEUM.  
BRITISH BALLOON.  
THE approbation expressed by every individual who has honored COUNT ZAMBECCARI's Aerostatic Globe with inspection, the Scientific Order of the Community in particular, imprest him with the most heartfelt satisfaction; being conscious, that it proceeds from its striking superiority over every other construction of the kind exhibited in Great Britain, and not from any arts calculated to exaggerate its merits, for mercenary purposes. He wishes to addess himself to the good sense of the respectable public, and to build his pretensions to their favor, upon the solid basis of truth and sincerity, not artful deception, as practised by those whose views extend no farther, than to the gratification of their interested pursuits; who are insensible to the dignity of genuine honor; and who, under the specious pretence of respect and gratitude, insult the generous unsusppecting credulity of the public, by pretending to advance the noble cause of philosophy, without the ability to give a rational answer to the simplest question upon a scientific subject. The Exhibition of the British Balloon, with its necessary apparatus, is now exhibiting, at the LYCEUM, in the Strand, which is fitted and prepared for the purpose in the completest manner, and kept so warm, as to secure the most infirm and delicate constitutions from injury.

A Gentleman of the first distinction has engaged to attend Count Zambecari in his approaching Aerial Excursion; and it is his ambition to be honored with the company of a British Lady, but this happiness he must forego, and content himself with a second Gentleman, unless some Lady, whose rank, &c. in life would obviate every objection, is speedily proposed.

Admittance, One Shilling only, from nine until four o'clock. 1. Jan. 1785

LYCEUM. 21. March  
COUNTE ZAMBECCARI having closed the Exhibition of the BRITISH BALLOON, has the pleasure to return to a liberal, generous, and discerning Public, his most unreserved acknowledgments for the very flattering approbation with which he has been honored, in the construction of his stupendous Aeroft; and respectfully gives notice, that he ascends on Wednesday next, March 23. Tickets to partake of the peculiar pleasure inseparable from Aerial Evolutions, are now delivering at the Lyceum Office, which will announce the place and hours; both of which circumstances it is hoped purchasers will forbear communicating, to prevent the inconvenience of too numerous an assemblage of spectators.—The best accommodations, which are mostly under cover, provided, with fires, and perfectly comfortable will be Half a Guinea each; the entrance to which is through a gentle, private habitation. The others Five Shillings only.—Both will afford a view of the inflating operation, and without Tickets no person will be admitted.—Purchasers of Tickets may depend on being conducted to their respective situations, with care and safety, every precaution being taken to preserve good order and regularity, in which it is hoped the Nobility and Gentry will concur, by condescending to order their carriages to set down with their horses' heads towards Hampstead, and take up with their Heads towards town. The speediest application for Tickets is requested, as the sale of them finishes to-morrow (Tuesday). Comte Zambecari informs the Nobility and Gentry, that having a few private apartments for the accommodation of select parties, those who apply this day at the Lyceum Office, may have orders to view the same, as well as the premises, from which the Balloon ascends.

LYCEUM.  
BRITISH BALLOON.  
COUNT ZAMBECCARI respectfully informs the public, that happy in the opportunity of contributing to their entertainment, his Aerostatic Globe, with its necessary apparatus, which has been honored with such singular approbation, is now exhibiting, and will continue until Saturday next to be exhibited at the LYCEUM in the Strand, which is fitted and prepared for the purpose in the completest manner, and kept so warm, as to secure the most infirm and delicate constitutions from injury.

A Gentleman of the first distinction has engaged to attend Count Zambecari in his approaching Aerial Excursion; and it is his ambition to be honored with the company of a British Lady, but this happiness he must forego, and content himself with a second Gentleman, unless some Lady, whose rank, &c. in life would obviate every objection, is speedily proposed.

At the request of a number of respectable persons, to whom the above hours are not convenient, and for the accommodation of those who may be disposed to see the Balloon on going to the Play Houses, the Exhibition will, in future, be kept open, without intermission, from Ten in the morning, until nine o'clock at night. 1. Jan. 1785

Admittance One Shilling only.

MR. BARRETT'S BALLOON.

Manuscript. TO THE EDITOR. 1802.

Swansea, Oct. 17, Sunday evening.

SIR—According to my promise, a fortnight since, I transmit to you facts relative to my intended ascent on Wednesday, the 6th instant, and my ascent on Friday last, the circumstances of which you will find impartially delivered in the following detail, viz.

I arrived in Swansea about eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st of August, with my wife and child, whom I brought from Devon with me to this place in the packet. My aërostatic machinery, being under the care of a trusty servant, who was behind on the road, I waited in Swansea near a fort-night before I received any intelligence. Having taken up my residence, the second day after our arrival, at Mr. Griffith's, the linen draper, in this town, during this vacation, as I had plenty of leisure time upon my hands, I put together a large Montgolfier, made of tissue paper, which measured twenty feet by eighteen in diameter, likewise a parachute, which was intended to be attached to the balloon, with small car containing a cat and dog, likewise a pasteboard box filled with combustibles, and a slow match, which was to fire the balloon and burn away the cord which suspended the parachute and the two little animals. We had every thing ready by the evening of the intended day, which proved exceedingly windy, so much as to render the filling of the Montgolfier extremely difficult, but which I accomplished by the assistance of some gentlemen of the town.

Just as I brought the fire balloon upon the stage, a gentleman stepped up to me and said, "Mr. Barrett, send up the balloon to-night, and you may get two or three hundred pounds in the town, all your success depends upon to-night; if you succeed you will do well here, &c." I had the mortification to perceive a large hole just below the middle part of the Montgolfier, however, as it was of sufficient magnitude to contain enough gas in the upper part to carry up its own weight, and we found it made considerable efforts to ascend. I desired the man who held the lower end of the rope which suspended the balloon, to "cut away;" the machine ascended, but in a minute was checked by the same rope, which took a dozen turns round about the eye of a key through which it was passed, as a substitute for a block which had been previously removed before the machine was filled, on account of the pulley not working free. The wind being high, brought the longest part of the Montgolfier parallel with the horizon which immediately took fire, and was in a few minutes consumed; here was a failure that I felt severely, and the more so as there were about a thousand people assembled on the outside of the Ball Court of the George Inn, which was the place fixed upon for my aërostatic experiments; however, chagrined as I was, this did not deter me from making (of the best materials I could get in this place, which was common printing paper, much too heavy) two other Montgolfiers, one about twelve feet high and fifteen diameter, and the other seven feet high, and the same diameter, exactly the same shape as Mr. Garnerin's cylindrical balloon, the top being spherical. The first of these I sent up, after discharging two dozen of good maroons, and a few light balls; it ascended very heavily to the height of about 4,000 feet, and remained in the air till the fire went completely out, when it fell in the yard of a house about 200 yards from the place it ascended, and was brought me back again very much torn. About one hour afterwards, I sent up the other, which was still heavier than the former; however, that ascended about 1,000 feet, and fell nearly in the same spot as the first, after being in the air about eight minutes. I let off a few more maroons, and left the court for that night. A few days after this, my large balloon, car, net, twenty tin tubes, and the rest of the apparatus, arrived safe in this port, and no other damage done except to the pipes, which were nearly shook to pieces, and unfit for use till repaired. I found that the town seemed rather dissatisfied; but I began to think that as the sight of a proper aërostatic machine, with its apparatus, must be an entire novelty to some hundreds of the inhabitants, I concluded that to attempt an ascent would still be more satisfactory, and, in some measure, make amends for the disappointment occasioned by the non-ascent of the first Montgolfier. It was very windy weather, and there was no covered building, or any other convenient place, to blow it up with common air but the Ball Court, which was high enough, but exposed to the atmosphere.

In this place I began to have it inflated in the morning, and after half a day's puffing and blowing with a small pair of forge bellows, which had twenty holes in it, we got it about 7-tenths full; the day's exhibition yielded twenty-two shillings; at dark we pressed out the common air, and removed it to my apartments. A day or two after I began to fill it again with common air, but the wind being very high, we again pressed out what air had been blown into it, and removed it to our lodgings; the amount of this day's receipts was four shillings, out of which I had to pay for workmen's labour, use of the Court, &c. &c. about four pounds twelve shillings and two-pence-halfpenny, and I had about eleven shillings left to pay it with. As I had met with so little encouragement either to go on with any more Montgolfiers, or to attempt to raise the Aerostat, I began to think myself placed in a very whimsical predicament, not to say unfortunate; and, upon retrospection of my past expenses, labour, fatigue, and anxiety of mind, as well as ill success, and the daily flagellation of the Gentlemen of the Type, put me almost to my wits end, to find out in what kind of mode I could propose to fill my Balloon with gas sufficient to take me up into the atmosphere; indeed it struck me once or twice whether it would not be more profitable to cut up my Balloon, and set up a manufactory of bathing caps, umbrellas, and hat-covers, of which I could soon have produced a plentiful stock; but again reflecting that my favourite object was not yet accomplished, viz. making an ascent into the air, I determined, at all events, to push my point to the utmost, accordingly I published hand bills, and solicited a subscription to the amount of 70l. This

would have been ineffectual, had it not been for the kind intercession of Mr. Russel, and another Gentleman, as there were three doubtful points existing in the minds of the people, viz. 1st. As to my being able to fill the balloon, 2dly. As to the possibility of getting subscribers sufficient to pay the expences. 3dly. If the balloon was filled, whether I would ascend. However, the vitriol at my request was obtained by a Chemist of the town from Bristol and Neath, and Wednesday the 6th instant was the day fixed. There were about 500 people assembled; I had been at work three days before in getting the casks, which consisted of barrels, hogsheads, and puncheons, which were obtained with much difficulty, and solicitation. About eight o'clock on Wednesday morning I began to fill the balloon, but owing to a misunderstanding, which occasioned delays, the gas condensed while I was waiting for vitriol; at length I was necessitated to stop the process of filling for want of vitriol, after using eight bottles, or carboys, and was upon the point of haranguing the audience, when part of the stage broke down, and several persons thereon fell, together with myself; I was no further hurt than falling on my thumb, which pained me for a few hours; a boy fractured the bone of his leg by the fall, which, as it was occasioned in some measure by the balloon as the primary cause, I acknowledge myself willing to pay for the setting of his leg out of the subscription-money collected; thus ended that day's business, which was very incorrectly stated in your paper, not to say malicious or ill-natured. This day's business yielded me nothing except chagrin; however, I consoled myself as well as I could with the old adage, "that a bad beginning often makes a good ending;" and that there is "a time for every thing under the sun;" and though that time was yet to come, it might not be long before I should be able to rise above the clouds of adversity, and hold my head as high as any other aeronaut, either French or English. While I amused myself with these speculations, I was all of a sudden cheered with the animating hope of accomplishing my wishes, and depriving those wasps who had stung me so often in the public prints of their venom. By the kind assistance of the two gentlemen I before named, a formidable subscription was set on foot, the expence of a fresh supply of vitriol was guaranteed, and on my side, to prove to those gentlemen that I wished to render myself worthy of their confidence and esteem, I made no hesitation to say, that I would stake my balloon and apparatus that I would fill it and ascend, which was approved of, and articles of agreement signed and sealed. Accordingly last Friday was the day fixed, and after getting the stage repaired, and all other materials ready the day before, we commenced the process of filling. I forgot to mention to you that I had been occupied four or five days in re-varnishing my balloon with elastic gum varnish, which I prepared just before I left London, to render all secure, and prevent as much as possible a second disappointment. This job was done in the open fields alternately, as the weather permitted—pardon this digression. We commenced filling precisely at a quarter before ten o'clock; and by half-past twelve the balloon was sufficiently inflated barely to carry up my own weight. About this time, a cask, which had been just charged with vitriol and water, burst and let out the materials: this occasioned some delay; as well as a smart breeze, which sprung up from the north-east, occasioned a rent in the lower part of the balloon, owing to the great strain of part of the net across the silk of the machine to keep it steady: we lost a great deal of gas; but soon repaired this trifling accident. From the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of casks, we were obliged to empty and again charge the small casks, while our large refractory, consisting of eleven tubes and larger casks, were at work. About half-past one, I went to my lodgings to get some roast leg of mutton, part of which I secured and put up in my pocket handkerchief, in case of descending where no meat was to be had. I returned to the field; but in that space of time (about fifteen minutes) could not perceive much alteration in the size of the balloon, I gave directions for the car to be slung. As our vitriol was all out, and the tubes flaccid, a little before three, I got into the car with fifty pounds of ballast, a bottle of brandy, and a pound of leg of mutton, and bread, flags, &c. all of which I threw out before the balloon began to ascend, but the bottle, and that went soon after to enable me to clear a hedge which the balloon got foul of: the populace then came up and bore me and the balloon upon their shoulders to the extremity of the field, when I found myself rising gradually, and for the first time in my life abandoned to a new element. However, the pleasure I enjoyed in the prospect of the town and its environs, as well as rising amidst the acclamations and applause of near 10,000 people, was but very short lived, for at the moment I was whirling round my cap to take leave of the multitude below me, to my very great mortification and disappointment I found the balloon descending, which it continued to do until it lighted gently about four fids distance, after which it alternately ascended and descended for the space of a quarter of an hour, carrying me over fields, trees, and hedges, and sometimes skimming a few feet above the surface of the earth. Finding all my endeavours to reascend ineffectual, I got out of my cradle, and after opening the valve, the balloon which was now lightened by 130lb. ascended with great velocity, till it appeared not larger than an acorn, taking its course directly over the sea, where it remained stationary, but soon after met with a different current of wind, which brought it within six miles of the place it first ascended from, where it fell gently in the middle of a field, after being up three hours, and all the while in sight. The balloon was seized by the country people, and cut through the middle to let me out as they alleged, whom they supposed nearly or quite dead.

FRAN. BARRETT.

A Galvanic Society has just been instituted at Paris, for the farther investigation of the properties and relations of the Galvanic fluid, and for its application to the cure of diseases.

Mr. BARRETT intends ascending in his Balloon the first fine day from Mr. Horne's pleasure grounds near Vauxhall. To prevent a disappointment similar to the last, Mr. BARRETT does not intend making the time of his second essay generally known.

Aug. 26 1802.

## ENGLISH BALLOON. Aug. 14

1802

ACCORDING to the intelligence which we received at a late hour last night, this experiment was considered to have completely failed. The Balloon was not filled at six o'clock, nor did it appear that those who had the management of it could fill it, as the Gas escaped as fast as it was let in. A pledge was given on the preceding day, that the Balloon should positively ascend yesterday at three o'clock; but three hours having elapsed after that time, and no probability appearing of the Balloon's ascending, it seemed to be a waste of time to remain at Greenwich any longer.

Balloons, under the present system of management, (and perhaps there is no other) are of little or no use, they serve only for the purpose of making amusing experiments; but when the Public are induced by the promises of an Aeronaut to attend day after day only to witness the failure of an ill-judged experiment, and to be irritated by disappointment, it becomes a subject worthy of serious consideration. The eagerness of the great mass of the People to run in crowds to witness the result of any experiment that wears the appearance of novelty, or of which the novelty is not yet worn off, is too well known; it is therefore of considerable importance, that the time of the Public should not be trifled with, and that if an experiment of that kind is to be performed, it should be carried into effect promptly, and at the appointed time. We do not make these reflections out of any ill-will towards those who conducted the business of yesterday, but we think it a subject of too great importance to the Public to be passed over in silence. There ought to have been a well grounded conviction of success founded on actual experiment, in the minds of those who had the conduct of it, before they ventured to summon the attendance of the Public. Success should have been as certain as it could have been rendered by human exertions before the People in general were called upon to witness the result.

A Fire Balloon, of considerable magnitude, passed over a part of the Town between seven and eight yesterday evening, which was mistaken by many for the Balloon which was expected to ascend from Greenwich.

At no public exhibition do we ever recollect such a complete want of management as at Mr. Barrett's Balloon; the entrance to Mr. Andrade's close, from which the balloon ascended, is in a very narrow lane, and so many of the neighbours speculated on erecting scaffolds, letting their houses, &c. and there being no direction for the public to Mr. Andrade's grounds, as advertised, hundreds of persons were deluded out of their money, by active persons being stationed in the lane, concerned with those who let their houses, scaffolds, &c. and when they paid their money, they supposed they were going to the ground where the balloon was to ascend from. The only entrance to the ground was by an old shattered gate, fastened by a rope and an old rusty staple, which frequently was not strong enough to resist the pressure of the mob, and numbers got in without paying, and others got on the ground without paying by jumping from other premises. Coal-heavers were mixed with Ladies elegantly dressed who came in their carriages, and paid 5s. for adm' fin, brickmakers, brewers, draymen, sailors, and persons of the lowest order mixing with those of the first respectability. Aug. 16.

The French Papers triumph over us about the failure of Mr. BARRETT, and say, that no Englishman was ever able to make a Balloon ascend. This assertion is as true, as French assertions are in general. We could, if it were necessary, give a long list of Englishmen who have constructed, and ascended with Balloons; but to correct French ignorance, and refute French falsehoods, would be an endless task.

It is said that the French have sent us plenty of Game, in return for our Pigeons, but they certainly made game of those Pigeons.

Mr. BARRET and Mr. TODD seem to possess powers so congenial, that it is a pity they do not unite in experimental excursions. The one will never grow dizzy by rising, and the other is likely to keep his head above water. Oct. 16. 1802

DIODENES, the Cynic, we are told, always lived in a tub, but it fared rather worse with poor Todd, who hardly escaped being drowned in one.

Mr. BARRETT brought his Cradle in hopes of being rocked by the winds; but, after all, it only turned out to be a puff.

It was very proper to suspend a child's cradle to Mr. BARRETT's Balloon, as the whole of the affair displayed the ignorance of a babe. Aug. 1802

The next time Mr. Barrett determines to attempt an ascention, we recommend him to fill his Balloon at the Lottery Office. The art of puffing is now carried to such perfection that it is a shame for an Apothecary to appear ignorant in any species of it. Several of our Quacks have blown themselves higher than this occult philosopher was able to send up his empty cradle. Aug. 1802

The yawn of the Abbé Sieyes upon the reading of the last Constitution, and the smile of M. Garnerin at Barrett's Balloon, are of the same family, however different their features. The fate, however, of the Constitution materially differs from that of the Balloon, as the latter was not able to elevate one individual over the heads of the rest of the people. Aug. 1802

The rocking which GARNERIN experienced under the Parachute was not of a kind to lull either himself or his spectators to sleep; for this purpose there is nothing equal to Mr. BARRETT's cradle!

THE ST. JAMES'S CHRONICLE.  
On the late Failure of the ENGLISH AERONAUTS.  
YOU ask how Monsieur's art prevail'd,  
Where British genius tried and fail'd?  
True British metal rarely flies,  
Tho' Gallick vapours reach the skies!

SWANSEA, SEPT. 8. 1802

BARRETT, the Greenwich Balloonist, is attempting to make the people here believe that his Balloon is to ascend on Saturday next; the 11th. The town is full of people, and of novelties exclusive of the above; the Theatre is now opened, under the Management of the Veteran MASTERMAN — the Ventriloquist LEE SUGG — the Phantasmagoria — Concerts and Assemblies — Puppet Shows, &c. &c. all contribute to our amusement.

Mr. BARRETT, it is said, will ascend with his Balloon in a few days from Swansea in Glamorgan shire, when he intends to cross the Bristol Channel. It is also said, that he has planned some curious machinery to enable him to vary considerably from the direct current of the wind, which it is supposed will partially answer the purpose of steering the Balloon.

One of the Papers informs us, that Mr. Barrett proposes to mount in his Balloon from the sea-side in Wales. Perhaps this machine is like the West Indian's horse, which would go perfectly well by sea, though by land it would not go at all. Sept. 11. 1802

SWANSEA, October 6.

"Mr. Barrett, this day (after having disappointed us twice before with his Fire Balloons) in consequence of advertisements being circulated in every part of the Principality, assembled near 20,000 persons. The balloon was to ascend at a quarter past one o'clock, with Mr. Barrett and Dr. Turton, of this town.

"The day was as fine as could be wished, with a gentle breeze to the Westward. Great preparations were seemingly making by Mr. Barrett and assistants: the tubes, barrels, iron filings, &c. were on the ground the preceding night. The fields, the hills, the houses, the ships in the harbour, every place was crowded with people from the most distant parts of the country; the town never was so full.

"They began to fill the balloon about eight o'clock; from that time to eleven, they got on but very slowly. At this time a complete stop was put to the process by the want of vitriol. The Chemist, who had let Mr. Barrett have six hundred weight, would not furnish any more without the cash. Time was now getting on; the balloon had no appearance of anything being in it; messages and messengers now passed between Mr. Barrett and the Chemist till three o'clock, when the assemblage of persons on the spot (at least 8000) began to be unruly.

"Mr. Barrett now came forward on the stage to make an apology, when just as he said — "Ladies and Gentlemen" — down fell the stage with a most tremendous crash, and Mr. Barrett and his balloon with it, with a great number of persons. Many were severely hurt. One boy had his legs broken; the balloon was torn in its fall, and Mr. Barrett was hurt. He now attempted to harangue the populace, laying the blame on the Chemist, and promising to make another attempt in a day or two; but the fame he had acquired at Greenwich had reached this place, and hootings and howlings were the result. He begged them not to destroy the balloon, which they permitted him at last to take away.

"The town is in an uproar; every horse and post-chaise was engaged between the Bristol Passage and Milford. Mr. Barrett threatens to bring an action against the Chemist!"

GARNERIN cannot raise a Subscription at Bristol, and, therefore, very naturally refuses to raise his balloon.

Some Irish Gentlemen having observed that Mr. BARRET has never been able to fill above half his Balloon, have proposed that he should take over one of the halves of it to Dublin, where they have no doubt but that he will succeed in filling and ascending with it.

Oct. 1802

Some of the Welsh people, it is said, think that Mr. BARRET's Balloon was bewitched; but others are of opinion that he himself was bewitched in attempting to send it up.

Whatever may be the feelings of Mr. BARRET, the soi-disant Balloonist, it is very evident he is not by success inflated.

OCT. 22. 1802.  
MR. BARRETT'S BALLOON.

A long Letter from Mr. BARRETT, appeared in an Evening Paper of last night, in which, after giving a very minute and detailed Account of his operations, subsequent to his arrival at Swansea, he proceeds thus:

"Accordingly, last Friday, (the 15th instant), was the day fixed, and after getting the Stage repaired, and all other materials ready, the day before, we commenced filling precisely at a quarter before ten o'clock; and by half past twelve, the Balloon was sufficiently inflated barely to carry up my own weight. About this time a cask, which had been just charged with vitriol and water burst, and let out the materials: this occasioned some delay; as well as a smart breeze, which sprung up from the North-East, occasioned a rent in the lower part of the net across the silk of the machine to keep it steady: we lost a great deal of gas; but soon repaired this trifling accident. From the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of casks, we were obliged to empty and again charge the small casks, while our large refrigeratory, consisting of eleven tubes and larger casks, were at work. About half-past one, I went to my lodgings to get some roast leg of mutton, part of which I secured and put up in my pocket handkerchief, in case of descending where no meat was to be had. I returned to the field; but in that space of time (about fifteen minutes), could not perceive much alteration in the size of the Balloon. I gave directions for the car to be slung. As our vitriol was all out, and the tubes flaccid, a little before three, I got into the car, with fifty pounds ballast, a bottle of brandy, and a pound of leg of mutton, and bread, flags, &c. all of which I threw out before the Balloon began to ascend, but the bottle, and that went soon after, to enable me to clear a hedge which the Balloon got foul of: the populace then came up and bore me and the Balloon upon their shoulders to the extremity of the field, when I found myself rising gradually, and for the first time in my life abandoned to a new element.— However, the pleasure I enjoyed in the prospect of the town and its environs, as well as rising amidst the acclamations and applause of near 10,000 people, was but very short lived, for at the moment I was whirling round my cap to take leave of the multitude below me, to my very great mortification and disappointment I found the Balloon descending, which it continued to do until it lighted gently about four fields distance, after which it alternately ascended and descended for the space of a quarter of an hour, carrying me over fields, trees, and hedges, and sometimes skimming a few feet above the surface of the earth. Finding all my endeavours to reascend ineffectual, I got out of my cradle, and after opening the valve, the Balloon, which was now lightened by 130lb. ascended with great velocity, till it appeared not larger than an acorn, taking its course directly over the sea, where it remained stationary, but soon after met with a different current of wind, which brought it within six miles of the place it first ascended from, where it fell gently in the middle of a field, after being up three hours, and all the while in sight. The Balloon was seized by the country people, and cut through the middle to let me out, as they alledged, whom they supposed nearly, or quite dead.

FRAN. BARRETT."

Mr. BARRETT began to interest himself in the making of Balloons, so far back as the ascent of LUNARDI, but with his experience it does not appear that he has risen in knowledge.

1802 COUNTRY NEWS.

Swansea, Oct. 15. About a fortnight ago Mr. Barrett intended ascending in his Balloon, but not being then furnished with sufficient materials to inflate it, he deferred it till a future period, being in hopes, through the liberality of the publick, who had never witnessed any thing of the kind in this part of the country, to obtain every necessary article. Individual exertion and the support of the publick were not wanting: and Mr. Barrett, through these means, about eight o'clock this morning, began to inflate his Balloon; but although the inflation continued from that time till four in the evening, it was not above half full. The casks were supplied with every necessary article, and the inflammable air seemed to be conveyed in an abundant quantity through the tubes, and yet the Balloon continued in an imperfect state; there was, no doubt, a fault in the machine itself, for the gas must have escaped, owing to the silk being badly connected.

A few minutes after four, the car being attached to the balloon, every spectator was filled with anxious expectation, and the surrounding hills were covered with multitudes, when the Aeronaut took his seat. The signal was given to set it at liberty, but it had no inclination to ascend: Mr. Barrett then threw out a quantity of ballast, and at last the whole. The balloon then ascended, but with no rapidity, and not going above twenty yards in height, he descended among a row of trees.

Through the exertions of the populace, the Aeronaut and his balloon were drawn again into the plain, and it had a fair opportunity of re-ascending—but it still came down, and Mr. Barrett, evidently despairing of success, at last quitted his seat, and set the balloon off itself. It then ascended to a very considerable height, and after remaining up nearly an hour, descended about four miles from this place, where it was taken up by two labourers, who, thinking they could make a better use of it than Mr. Barrett, went through the simple operation of cutting it in two, each taking his half.

This is the third time Mr. Barrett has failed in his attempt in the science of Aérostation, and we hope it will be the last. In short, he does not seem to possess a sufficient knowledge of chemistry to inflate his balloon properly, or there must have been a great defect in the machine, and being now convinced of his inability, he ought not to persevere in what to him at least must be an idle and useless speculation,

Mr. Post, Aug. 14 1802  
Mr. BARRETT's BALLOON, GREENWICH.

Notwithstanding the disappointment of the day before, the curiosity of the public was sufficiently strong to bring together an immense crowd yesterday in the full expectation that every thing would be so far forwarded in the course of the intervening time as to render the ascent inevitable. A day altogether as favourable as the preceding one afforded the same enjoyment in the prospect of the country, and promised a most advantageous view of the balloon. The hills in the park were covered at an early hour, as well as the stages adjoining Mr. Andrade's ground. The walls, house-tops and chimneys, and even the spires of the college had numbers of persons upon them. The ground itself did not begin to fill till three, and a sensible disappointment was observed, when it was found that no progress had hitherto been made in the preparation. It was only then that the balloon was brought on the stage, and the process commenced; but whether from some defect in the materials, some imperfection in the machinery, or (what is more probable) from unskillfulness in the operators, the filling went on very slowly. The persons who conducted it, said, that the vitriol was not of the proper strength, and that too much water had been put to it, on the presumption that it was of the standard quality. Others were of opinion, and among them some of Mr. Barrett's best friends, that Mr. Barrett had undertaken a task to which he was not equal; and, we understand, it was resolved among them, at an early hour, that if (after the continuation of the process till near dark) the balloon was found incapable of carrying up the travellers, or any one of them, it should at last be let off by itself, in order to appease the multitude, which, it was thought, would feel justly offended at a second disappointment. M. and Madame Garnerin, with Mr. Harrington, came on the ground about four, and having waited near two hours, departed, leaving the company in despair; for they considered his departure as a declaration from the best authority, that the case was hopeless.

We understand M. Garnerin said to some of those about him, that from the state in which the balloon was, at the time when he entered the ground, it could not possibly be sufficiently inflated to carry up three persons at an earlier hour than two in the morning. Captain Sowden, however, continued his exertions with all that zeal and activity which he has manifested since the opening of the plan of Mr. Barrett's expedition; and the public has to lament that the balloon was unequal to the task of taking him up, for, in all probability, he would have amused us by describing Greenwich park as a *bay-thorn*, the muslin gowns being the blossoms. After many hours of the most tiresome expectation, the balloon was not yet above half inflated, and the looks of the assembly were evidently expressive of great dissatisfaction. The ground, a kind of a sallow garden, was by this time trodden into a dusky, which was continually raised by the motion of the feet, so as to be extremely inconvenient; no seats had been erected, except one solitary bench on one side, and as this was taken possession of early, the gentlest pass of the company, which, as usual, was that which arrived latest, had no other means of rest than by sitting on the bare earth. Madame Garnerin, by the attention of her friend, had the luxury of a little straw to sit on. No refreshments were brought on the ground, and to venture out amidst the press, an immense mob, interspersed with large gangs of pick-pockets, was an enterprise which only a few of the most hardy of the men were equal to.

The ladies were under the necessity of enduring every hardship and inconvenience to the end. The number of persons who paid for entrance was not very great; there were some persons of fashion; and among the females there, not a few of very extraordinary beauty. Of all the public meetings that we have witnessed, this was unexceptionably the most dull; a number of persons very capable of enjoying pleasure, and possessing full ability to afford it to each other, under any circumstances less adverse, were imprisoned and debarred from every agreeable sensation that could be derived, either from the fineness of the day, the beauty of the country, or their own good humour. One thing only it was pleasant to observe; that animal, so much censured as the most ill tempered and unmanageable in the world, an English mob, preserved throughout the whole of this vexatious business the most exemplary good order. There was not even a shout, except two or three in the exultation of honesty, when about that number of pick-pockets, who had forced their way into the ground and commenced business, were detected and secured. About four, there was a momentary alarm, in consequence of the fall of a blacksmith's shed close to the entrance of the ground. A vast number had got on the roof of this shed; and its stability, under so great a burthen, had been long suspected. It stood so long, however, that every fear with respect to it had subsided, when it suddenly gave way with a horrible crash: every countenance at this moment displayed the most lively anxiety; but the distress was immediately removed, for the frame of the roof came down whole, and the tiles having fallen through the interspaces, the gentlemen above found themselves safe lodged on the timbers, without the smallest injury to any one. Some few more crashes were heard, but equally exempt from mischief; a paling near the door gave way, and afforded admission to a great number; and the door itself, after being lowered from a crown to half a crown, was at length thrown open, and every person who did not prefer the superior accommodation of a stage on the outside, came into the ground. About eight o'clock at length the balloon appeared to be somewhat more than half filled; the approach of night, and the previous determination to make some atonement to the people, induced Mr. Barrett and his friend to make every possible exertion to render the balloon adequate to taking up at least one of them. About a quarter past eight it was nearly dusk; the car had been tied on, but Mr. Glassford, who had been very active about the balloon from the early part of the day, on stepping into the car, and ordering the labourers to quit their

ropes, found it was incapable of carrying a single person. Mr. Barrett appearing to retain some hope till the latest moment; presented himself on the verge of the stage, and flourished his flags. It was then thought that he was to ascend, but in a short time after, to the astonishment of those to whom the flourish had given a new hope, the balloon was let off without a single person, with only a flag at each end of the car. The people at a little distance, incapable, from the darkness, of distinguishing clearly, and seeing the flags flying outside, thought there were at least two persons, and applauded accordingly. The people in the park held this opinion to the last; and even when the balloon was seen descending in about twenty minutes after its rise, the persuasion was, that the fate of two at least was connected with it. The balloon came down somewhere near Blackwall by the evaporation of the air.—It was of a large size, and was shaped in the pear form: it looked very well going up, but in a very few minutes, the filling being extremely incomplete, it was blown into every form. It was of an extremely party-coloured texture, resembling a patch-work counterpane in every thing but regularity.—On the whole we are bound to say for John Bull, that he received the greatest provocation, which he endured with the greatest possible patience. The roads continued crowded till a late hour, and the last coaches did not return till the public houses of Greenwich and Deptford could afford no farther accommodation. The whole passed off without the smallest riot or disturbance. By the failure of this expedition M. Garnerin has, in a manner, acquired an exclusive title to ballooning.

Aug. 14  
1802 Mr. BARRETT's BALLOON.

At a meeting held at Mr. Andrade's house, at Greenwich, of Mr. Barrett's friends, on Thursday night, it was recommended by Mr. Andrade and others, to Mr. Barrett, to relinquish the ascension; and it was nearly given up, advertisements being written to the different newspapers, to inform the public of the determination; but Captain Sowden stepped forward, and said that he thought himself thoroughly qualified to undertake the superintendance of the filling of the balloon; in consequence of which, the ascension as announced for this day should be prepared with all possible dispatch, under the direction of the Captain; and it was resolved that one of the valves, which had been improperly made, should be altered. Other necessary preparations were set about with all possible dispatch; but so little did the planner of this aerial expedition know of the nature of a balloon, as to be thoughtless enough to announce his intention to ascend on Thursday, at four o'clock, and again yesterday at three. Yet, with all the exertions of his friends, so far from being ready to ascend at three, that it was not even ready to begin filling at that hour. It was near four o'clock before a number of women had finished sewing some parts of the balloon, and making some silk tubes, after which it was necessary that the works should be oiled. It was near four o'clock before it was deemed finished, when Captain Sowden appeared on the stage erected for the purpose, and gave the necessary directions for filling the balloon with gas. In emptying two of the bottles of vitriol into a tub, they were unfortunately broken. The filling commenced, but evidently very slowly.

The filling had not commenced long before Captain Sowden discovered there were not funnels enough, and gave directions for more to be got, but so completely at a loss was every one concerned, with respect to management, that nobody knew where to get any; but after a considerable time some were got, and the filling proceeded, although very slowly. Mr. Bell, a wine-merchant, but who has made chemistry his particular study, superintended the mixing the vitriol, iron filings, and water, to produce the gas, but soon found that the iron filings and vitriol were extremely bad, so much so that out of five tin tubes only two of them worked. About five o'clock it was strongly suspected that, on account of the balloon filling so very slowly, the gas got vent; the balloon was examined, and it was the opinion of many that it was not properly oiled, and in the examination a small hole was discovered, which was immediately mended. Soon after six o'clock it was discovered that the balloon did not fill; and on another examination it was found the vitriol was exhausted in consequence of the breaking of the two bottles, and there was none to replenish; two more bottles were sent for express, and about seven o'clock, the filling proceeded, but after every possible exertion, at half past seven it was not above three-fourths filled, nor were any hopes entertained of the completion of their object. The car was therefore affixed, and every exertion made to accomplish the ascent with the balloon, although in that unfilled state, it being the wish of the gentlemen to go, altho' at such a late hour, that the public might not be again disappointed. When the car was properly fixed and decorated with several handsome flags, Mr. Barrett, Capt. Sowden, Mr. Maddox, the son of an eminent brewer, in the Borough, and a Major Cullough, attempted to step in, but Mr. Maddox intended him not to persist as it was impossible the balloon should rise with so many. The spectators gave them three cheers, and an attempt was made to let the balloon rise, but in vain; Mr. Maddox proposed to throw the ballast out, which was objected to by Captain Sowden, but was at length agreed to. Finding the balloon would not ascend, the grapping irons were thrown out; finding this to no effect, Mr. Maddox and Captain Sowden both got out, it being Mr. Barrett's determination to ascend at any rate, if the balloon would rise with him, that the Public might not be again disappointed, and so far did he carry his resolution, that finding the balloon would not rise with him alone, only one more resource remained—trying a lighter car. To answer this purpose a child's cradle was procured from Mr. Andrade's house, the head broke off, and it was fastened to the balloon. It was now about 8 o'clock. Before he attempted this desperate undertaking, he addressed the spectators, but they were so extremely clamorous, he could not be heard. He took his seat in the cradle, in hopes that so light a machine he might gain his object; but all to no purpose—the balloon would not rise. His case became desperate, and his friends advised him to get out, and let the balloon take its course, to escape the fury of the populace, who now began to shew symptoms of violence. Mr. Barrett accordingly took their advice, left the cradle, and escaped from the stage to Mr. Andrade's house, and the balloon ascended without any body in it nearly perpendicular: it was seen for near ten minutes; and in about ten minutes after, it was observed descending in a direction supposed to be for Woolwich, when a number of gentlemen took horses to go in pursuit of it, to prevent, if possible, the fury of the mob from destroying it.

When Mr. Barrett got into the cradle he was evidently much agitated, and great apprehensions were entertained by his friends for his safety. He was going to ascend without having the command of the ropes of the valves, but Mr. Maddox forced the rope of the inside valve into his hand.

When the public discovered that there was no person in the car when the balloon ascended, they expressed their disapprobation by hissing and hootings.

Numbers of candidates offered to ascend with Mr. Barrett. Among them was Mr. Jones, of Deptford, who offered 30L to go.

About half past three o'clock a large building adjoining the entrance to the ground fell in, at the time when there were about forty persons on it. It was supposed by those who observed the fall, that several must inevitably be killed; but providentially they were all got out of the ruins without any limbs being broke, but a number of severe bruises.

Mr. and Madame Garnerin, likewise Mr. Glassford were on the ground. It was the wish of the latter to have gone up with Mr. Barrett.

The well-known gang of London pickpockets infested the entrance to the ground, and plundered great numbers. Several gentlemen caught their hands in their pockets; but the gang being so very numerous, they escaped; however, several were secured by the constables, and lodged in the watchhouse. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Goodwin, a magistrate of that district, for his exertions to defeat the nefarious purposes of this disgraceful gang; two of them were pointed out to him on the ground, and he had them turned out. The spectators vented their fury, when they found the balloon was gone without any body in it, by destroying the car, and some netting and other things employed in filling the balloon.

ENGLISH BALLOON. Aug. 13

We regret that under this title we have only to record Disappointment—a disappointment, which as it was evident to the parties concerned must occur, ought to have been made known to the Public at an earlier hour. It being positively stated in the Advertisements and Posting-bills that the Balloon would ascend at four o'clock yesterday afternoon, an immense crowd flocked to Greenwich for the purpose of witnessing the Experiment. A great number of persons arrived there between two and three, and several having attempted to gain admittance into the ground from which the Balloon was to have ascended, they were informed that the experiment would not take place until to-morrow (this day), at three o'clock. They naturally inquired why the circumstance had not been publicly made known—in answer to which they were informed, that the Crier had been sent out to give public notice, that the Balloon would not ascend till the next day. With this novel mode, however, of informing the Public of such a circumstance, many who had trudged nine or ten miles, were not very well satisfied, nor did they fail to exercise very freely the privilege of grumbling. Grumbling being of no use, they were forced to content themselves with the satisfaction of having had their walk for their pains, and to turn their attention to their journey homewards.

About three o'clock a written Bill was posted up, close in the neighbourhood of the Ground from which the Balloon was to have ascended, in which it was stated that Mr. BARRETT respectfully informed the Inhabitants of Greenwich, and the Public at large, that in consequence of an unavoidable disappointment, the Ascension of the Balloon would not take place, till this day at three o'clock. This, however, was only information to the neighbouring Inhabitants, and to those who had already come from London, who, though extremely numerous, were but few in comparison with those who were still upon the Road. Many even of the Inhabitants of Greenwich remained ignorant for some time afterwards, that the experiment would not take place. An immense crowd continued flocking to Greenwich in coaches, chairs, on horseback, and on foot, from three till half past four, fully expecting to be gratified by a sight of the English Balloon.—Several stationed themselves on the Road, with Telescopes in their hands, expecting to gain a sight of it as it passed. The disappointment was of course the greater, as it was wholly unexpected.

The reason given for the disappointment was, that the Balloon could not have been properly filled, before nine o'clock in the evening, which of course rendered an ascent with it out of the question; but why this circumstance was not discovered, and publicly communicated at an earlier period, we could not learn.

A few who left Greenwich, at three o'clock, informed several, whom they met, of the postponement of the experiment; but most of them who received the information, only answered that they were not to be *boasted*, and then hastened onwards, certain in their own minds of becoming spectators of the exhibition, as they had met with no public contradiction of what had been publicly announced.

The Balloon is, we understand, extremely superb in its appearance, and about fifty feet in height.

Aug. 14. 1802

The publick rage of seeing Balloons was carried to such a pitch in the pursuit after Mr. Barrett's Balloon on Friday, that between three and four hundred persons were assembled on both galleries of St. Paul's Cathedral. They began to assemble about three o'clock, and many continued till it was so dark that they could hardly find their way down the staircase. Numbers were likewise on the Monument.

The Times, in its balloon account yesterday, says, "that part of the River, near Greenwich, was covered with boats, and the Essex shore on the opposite side crowded with people." This is very well for a paper that placed Tripoli in Egypt. The same Paper adds—"Several persons were also employed to inflate the balloon with common air, for which purpose they had procured two pair of large bellows, and were in hopes that it would be filled by one o'clock." 1802

The idea of ascending in a cradle was certainly sublime; and, had it proved successful, there can be little doubt that the same train of ideas carried into the higher regions would have converted Greenwich into the delectable appearance of a cheesecake or gooseberry-tart.

Aug. 16. 1802